

Servicemen barred from Olympic teams

ivil servants and servicemen hoping to compete the Olympic Games were told last night that Government will not grant them special leave go to Moscow. A ban on team events for British servicemen is likely to end the chance of victory for the all-service pentathlon team.

No special leave for civil servants

Michael Hatfield, Political Correspondent

Government last night rejected the chances of civil servants and service personnel getting in the Olympics in Moscow by announcing that no special leave would be granted for those selected for the British Olympic Association.

The Defence Department is clarifying the three services instructions that service personnel will not be allowed to take leave to compete in the Olympic Games. The all-service pentathlon team, which was chosen, stood a chance of winning a gold medal.

A Defence Department spokesman said the effect could stop them travelling as individuals, they would immediately run into the more complicated arrangements of a Government department.

It would be "inconvenient" for the Government to grant special leave to service personnel to compete in the Olympic Games. The Government would not want to set a precedent for civil servants and service personnel does not mean that they could not request normal leave during the period of the Games. But any such request would have to be considered in the light of the Government's needs.

These latest moves come on the eve of a Government debate in the Commons on Monday which is designed to further pressurise the Olympic Association not to participate in the Games. The Government has already been told that the Government has drawn Mr Douglas Martin, Secretary of the British Olympic Association in Moscow, as the person who would have to select the British Olympic team. The Government has already been told that the Government has drawn Mr Douglas Martin, Secretary of the British Olympic Association in Moscow, as the person who would have to select the British Olympic team.

Steelmen unmoved by new pay offer

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The British Steel Corporation last night put a new pay offer to union leaders of 140,000 striking steelmen, but it was not expected to settle the industry's national shutdown, which is now in its eleventh week.

On the third day of negotiations aimed at ending the dispute, BSC management and the 10-member trade union consortium agreed a joint document, covering job flexibility, demanning, and productivity bargaining.

But I understand that this "diluted" version of the corporation's original set of proposals was valued at only 9 per cent in terms of wage rises, or 1 per cent lower than the "final offer" put to the unions more than a month ago.

A 4.4 per cent payment for three months, to get local productivity schemes off the ground, remains in the corporation package offer; that puts the value of the draft deal as a whole at 13.4 per cent.

Union leaders adjourned to discuss the offer after seven hours of talks.

Their first response was to argue that British Steel had not put enough money on the table, and that the strike should go on.

BSC management was also considering its next move. If the latest offer is formally rejected, the Corporation may go ahead with a second ballot of the workforce, over the heads of union leaders, in an attempt to get its employees to approve the package.

While the manual unions were locked in pay negotiations, the 11,000-member Steel Industry Management Association was also asking for salary increases, believed to be as much as 27 per cent.

In talks with BSC at the industry's Ashover Hill College, near Leamington, SIMA proposed a 17 per cent rise in basic salaries, as well as more from local bonus schemes being negotiated for blue collar employees, which could yield up to an extra ten per cent.

The corporation's business and industrial relations strategy has been strongly criticised by Mr Robert Muir, the association's general secretary. Writing in SIMA's internal newsletter, he says: "It was not sensible for BSC at the outset to thump the workforce twice, almost simultaneously."



A policeman gripping a man during the clash between 1,000 steel strikers and 700 police outside Hadfields, the private steel works in Sheffield, south Yorkshire.

Marching strikers clash with police in protest over conduct of talks

From Ronald Kershaw, Sheffield

More than 1,000 steel strikers and 700 police were involved in clashes in Sheffield yesterday as the strikers demonstrated their anger at the conduct of the talks.

The strikers, who were led by a group of men known as the "Reds", marched from the town centre towards the Hadfields steelworks. They carried banners and sang songs.

The police, who were led by a group of men known as the "Blacks", followed them. They used batons and tear gas to clear the strikers.

The strikers were angry at the conduct of the talks. They felt that the BSC management was not putting enough money on the table.

The police were angry at the strikers' conduct. They felt that the strikers were using violence and were breaking the law.

The clashes continued for several hours. The strikers were eventually dispersed by the police.

Instant sunshine was never promised, Mrs Thatcher says

By George Clark, Political Correspondent

In a calm, but sombre mood, Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave a warning to the nation last night that the period of adjustment while Conservative economic policies are taking effect will be painful. "I am afraid some things will get worse before they get better," she said. But the Conservatives had never promised "instant sunshine".

On the eve of the Southend, East, by-election, the Prime Minister used the whole of a television broadcast to have a "straight talk" to the nation, explaining that the things which people voted for in May, 1979, when they put the Conservatives into power were now happening. It must take time for the results of the "folly and neglect" of the Labour Government to be corrected.

In effect, she was asking the people who voted Conservative at Southend 10 months ago to continue backing the Government in a difficult operation which had already brought signs that "commonsense is breaking through."

"We have to walk a tightrope between the need to face economic facts and the claims of common humanity," she said. "Almost everyone agrees on the need to cut public spending but, human nature being what it is, we tend to want the cuts to fall where we personally are not affected."

The Government has to strike a balance, to keep the nation on the path you called for 10 months ago. This is what we are doing.

But after almost a year of operation, you feel worse before you feel better. But you do not refuse the operation when you know that, without it, you will not survive."

Mrs Thatcher faced up to the main question which doubting voters are putting to canvassers at Southend: "Has the Government really lived up to the promise made at the general election? Was it giving the leadership it had needed for so long?"

"Am I, who carry the main responsibility for the Government, putting my own reputation under judgment, 'living up to the convictions of a lifetime? Are those convictions standing up in practice? Is our Conservative philosophy failing or succeeding?"

Before answering, she reminded her audience what the alternatives were when the Conservatives took over. "Last

May we all had fresh in our minds the appalling winter of discontent, from which Britain had just emerged, scarred and shaken," she said. "The country was convinced, as Conservatives had long been convinced, that unless some sadder, fairer way could be found of settling industrial disputes, sooner or later we would face another winter from which the nation might never fully recover."

Prices and unemployment were once again starting to rise; public spending was growing; all attempts at wage restraint had broken down.

For most people, she said, the choice was clear: "We could continue on the way we had been going for years. We could buy our way out of trouble by borrowing more money. We could go on printing ourselves out of foreign markets, and out of our own pockets, and out of more people demanding more and more people to unemployment. We could carry on increasing taxes on every family in the land."

"We could go on printing money in a futile attempt to pay for what the country had not earned. We could make matters even worse by doing nothing about crippling industrial strife. We could carry on doing all these things until the economy finally collapsed."

Or, the Prime Minister deliberately emphasised the word, by a huge effort of national will, the people could stop the rot and change direction. Leaving forward to the camera she emphasised: "You decided that it was time for a change."

Well, what were the signs for the change people voted for was happening? "You will

Continued on page 2, col 5



Enough French on lamb and budget

ice has said it would refuse to consider proposals during the EEC summit in Brussels to resolve British claims over the size of its contribution to the Community budget, as the European Commission tried its own proposals for ending the dispute within a reasonable period. France also said that it did not yield anything to Britain in the dispute over lamb imports.

Mr. C. J. Dench, the British Ambassador in Paris, said that the British Government was not prepared to accept the Commission's proposals.

The dispute over lamb imports has been a long-running one. The British Government claims that the Commission's proposals are unfair and that they would harm the British lamb industry.

The Commission claims that the British Government's proposals are unfair and that they would harm the European Community's budget.

Mr Bush heavily defeated in South

President Carter and Mr. Ronald Reagan won the Florida, Georgia and Alabama primaries with big margins. Mr. Reagan inflicted a heavy defeat on Mr. George Bush, his principal rival for the Republican nomination unless Mr. Gerald Ford belatedly enters the race. Although Senator Kennedy fared badly in Florida, many Jews voted for him, a trend which could upset Mr. Carter in New York if it continues. Page 8

US move on Iran

Mr. Cyrus Vance, the American Secretary of State, is to see Dr. Khomeini, the Islamic Republic's Secretary-General, about the inquiry commission which left Iran without seeing the hostages whose release depended on their findings. Ayatollah Khomeini said the extradition of the Secretary-General would be a "violation of the conditions" for the hostages' release. Page 8

Bonn easing curbs

West Germany is planning to scrap some of its exchange controls in the hope of attracting Arab oil money to the Deutsche mark. Regulations preventing non-residents from investing in German securities with less than four years' residence will be relaxed. Page 21

Lights cancer risk

Researchers in the United States have proved for the first time that fluorescent light can cause cancer in mammals. Cell cultures of mouse embryos were exposed to the light, incubated for 10 days, and then injected into mice. Page 19

MPs attack BBC Welsh arson film

The BBC went ahead with last night's television film of people who claimed to be involved in arson attacks on Welsh holiday homes in spite of appeals by MPs. The decision, which was taken at top level, was described by Mr. Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool, as irresponsible. Page 3

Channel tunnel: EEC Transport Commissioner calls on Britain and France to reach a decision this year

Open government: Confidential report prepared for top civil servants that a freedom of information Act could be tolerated "without too much difficulty". Page 6

Salisbury: Mr. Mugabe wants to delay date of independence

Delhi: Uproar over acquittal of two policemen on rape charge. Page 9

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HOME NEWS

BBC refuses MP's pleas to drop 'Nationwide' report on Welsh holiday home 'arsonists'

From Tim Jones

A BBC film report of people who claimed to be involved in arson attacks on Welsh holiday homes was broadcast last night despite appeals by MPs.

The decision to allow the film to be shown on Nationwide was taken by Mr Ian Trethowan, director-general, and senior BBC executives.

Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said: "We have a free press, but I think I am entitled to ask the BBC to think very carefully whether they should do this sort of thing. These people are terrorists who have endangered life and property and the BBC seem to be encouraging them. The first duty of the BBC in this should be to assist the police."

Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP for Pontypool, said: "I give a propaganda platform to arsonists is irresponsible on the part of the BBC. This is not a question of giving a platform of speech to a minority group but of giving a platform to avowed criminals."

The film, shot at a house in Cardiff, showed a silhouetted man handing a BBC reporter a statement threatening to increase arson attacks if not watched by senior police officers in Wales who are investigating 35 attacks on English-owned holiday homes.

Mr Richard Francis, head of BBC news, said that a Nationwide team had been investigating the arson campaign for

three weeks. "During the course of gathering information the team discovered that the organization claiming to carry out these arson attacks might be prepared to be interviewed in order to explain their motives."

He added: "It was made plain that all the circumstances might be subsequently investigated by the police, and shortly afterwards the reporter volunteered to the police such information as he was able to give." Our Political Staff writes: MPs on all sides of the House considered the programme "distasteful" yesterday. Mr Alec Jones, Opposition spokesman on Welsh affairs, tried to table an early day motion and a private notice question. In the event, he issued a statement accusing the BBC of irresponsibility.

The BBC has thus given publicity to a member of an organization which admits that through its activities "someone will get hurt sooner or later", he said.

Earlier, Mr Merlyn Rees, shadow Home Secretary, said in the Commons that there was a bombing campaign on houses of English residents and of Welshmen who owned two houses.

Nobody wanted to stop genuine ideas coming out on television, even from those with which one disagreed, he said. But this was a matter of people who would be hurt.

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, Leader of the House, said that the Government attached great importance to the intervention

of Mr Rees. The Home Secretary, of course, had no direct programmes, he added.

It is understood that shadow spokesmen concerned with legal affairs thought the BBC was in contravention of its statutory obligations. Many MPs thought that, whatever the statutory position, the programme was an appalling piece of journalism.

Action possible: The Attorney General, Sir Michael Havers, QC, is considering the papers sent to him by the Director of Public Prosecutions, to see whether he should recommend action under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 1976.

One concerns the filming by a Panorama team of armed IRA members in Carrickmore, Co Tyrone, last October. The second concerns an interview with a member of the Irish National Liberation Army about the murder of Mr Airey Neave, which was shown on the Tonight programme in July.

ATV reprimand: Production staff involved in the filming of alleged criminal damage by children in an ATV programme have been reprimanded, Mr Charles Denton, programme controller of ATV network Ltd, said yesterday.

Mr Arthur Sandford, chief executive of Nottinghamshire County Council, had alleged that a stone-throwing incident in the film, in a series called England, Their England, had been stage managed.

£2.3m apples aid plea by farmers rejected

From Hugh Clayton

Agriculture Correspondent

Newbury

Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, rebuffed farmers yesterday for demanding large price rises and protection against imports.

He indicated that the Government would reject a claim by farmers for aid of £2.3m to counteract what they see as unfair subsidies to French growers of Golden Delicious apples. "If apple growers in this country are kidding themselves that it is all unfair competition, they are deluding themselves," he said. "A trip round Covent Garden looking at the golden delicious compared with some of the British produce coming on to the market is not an encouraging experience."

He was speaking at a conference organized by the Wessex area of the Conservative Party, at which he faced many sceptical questions from farmers. He insisted that the Government had an outstanding record of helping farmers. It had eliminated the green pound gap, about which they had complained for years.

"The National Farmers Union spent three years campaigning for it to be eliminated," Mr Walker said. "They are not saying much about it now. In a 10-month period it would be difficult to envisage any government doing anything as speedily as we have done."



Rival medical students in battle before the Hospital's Rugby Cup final yesterday between St Mary's and Westminster at Richmond. (Match report, page 12.)

Curb on sales drives aimed at children

By a Staff Reporter

Sales promotion methods aimed at children are to be modified after the publication yesterday of the Advertising Standards Authority's new code of practice.

The code, which is observed by all main media and advertising bodies, stipulates that children should not be eligible

for promotions where the prizes may cause difficulties with parents unless their written permission is required for entry to the competition. The use of prizes unsuitable for children or young people is barred.

More restrictions may be on the way. The authority last year initiated a study in schools run by the Inner London Education

Authority on the effects of advertising on children.

Mr W. J. Ambrose, chairman of the sales promotion sub-committee, which produces the code through the ASA, said: "Children are easily led or misled and we feel we have a responsibility not to involve children against the wishes or attitudes of their parents."

Leaders of drugs gang jailed for 12 years

From Our Correspondent

Ipswich

The two ringleaders of a gang of drug smugglers were each jailed at Ipswich Crown Court yesterday for 12 years.

The first man, Ahmet Veli, a Turkish Cypriot, of Tottenham, London, who was said to have been leader of the London end, admitted conspiracy, and importing £5m of heroin into Britain. The second, Fuat Yurksel, a jeweller from Istanbul, who was said to have organized the operation in Turkey, had pleaded not guilty to similar charges.

Edward Scanlon, of Hamstead, London, one of the gang's couriers, who admitted conspiring to import cocaine from South America as well as heroin from Turkey, was jailed for seven years. He received a further consecutive sentence of two years for burglary.

Sharon Bryant, aged 22, of London, mistress of Mr Veli, was jailed for two years for importing and supplying heroin. Victoria McCaffrey, aged 24, of Fulham, London, who was jailed for two years at the beginning of the trial three and a half weeks ago, had her sentence varied yesterday by Judge Bertrand Richards to an 18-month suspended sentence.

Mrs Sheila Cooper, Mr Scanlon's friend, also of Hamstead, was earlier jailed for three years for attempting to import heroin.

Prison officers block action on riot orders

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison officers at Wormwood Scrubs, London, who face a police investigation after a clash here with prisoners, have told the Home Office that they will not take part in a similar operation in future. They were ordered to deal with a protest on August 31 last.

A meeting of members of the Prison Officers' Association has decided that they would go in to bring out any colleagues left in the prison during a protest or riot and would then hold a meeting to decide what to do.

The officers' reaction places in jeopardy tactics worked out or dealing with trouble in Britain's potentially explosive jails, which are dangerously overcrowded and contain unprecedented numbers of people convicted of crimes of violence. Adding to the crisis in the system is industrial action reported at 25 prisons.

A spokesman for the 460-strong branch of the POA at Wormwood Scrubs said yesterday that it had in effect told the Home Office: "We are no longer prepared to accept the dictates you give us when we know you are not going to protect us from malicious allegations."

The resolution by the branch was passed on to the prison

department by the governor. Officials at the department had said they understood the feelings of branch members; but "they expected us to follow the best traditions of the service and do as we were told. But our members are adamant", the spokesman said.

The time taken to put the prisoners away during the incident on August 31 was seven minutes, he said. Officers saw no reason why they should carry out instructions of the sort given which had led to a police investigation.

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, asked Scotland Yard to investigate the clash.

Mr Keith Gibson, director for the south-east region of the prison service, had written to Mr Whitelaw saying he was unable to make progress with his investigations into the incident as prima facie evidence had emerged of criminal assaults by officers on prisoners.

There were injuries to 54 prisoners and 11 officers during the trouble.

The Howard League for Penal Reform said yesterday in a letter to Mr Whitelaw that it welcomed the police investigation, but was amazed that the evidence had emerged only now and not immediately after the incident while memories and wounds were fresh.

Transplant man treated for heart rejection

Mr Even McPhee, who received a heart transplant last month, has been treated for signs of rejection at Papworth hospital, near Cambridge, it was disclosed yesterday.

His body showed signs of rejecting his new heart at the end of last week, but after treatment with a drug he is now making better progress.

Doctors said it was not the first difficulty for Mr McPhee, aged 23, from Inverness. Soon after his operation he had to be fitted with an electronic pacemaker because his heart was not beating correctly. A hospital official said the situation was not unusual. Mr Keith Castle, Britain's longest surviving heart transplant patient, had similar trouble with rejection, but that was successfully treated.

Mr Castle and Mr Andrew Jarlow, another heart transplant patient, met in Doncaster yesterday while they were helping to promote a campaign to raise £250,000 for heart transplants.

During yesterday's tour, which was organized by the National Heart Research Fund, Mr Castle and Mr Jarlow went to Scunthorpe, where they received a cheque for £1,500 to help the campaign.

British heritage in danger, council says

By Our Planning Reporter

Public interest in, and official acceptance of, the need for nature conservation are not enough to safeguard Britain's natural heritage, the Nature Conservancy Council states in its annual report published today.

"Modern technology is, more often than not, intrinsically damaging to natural systems, while today's land use practices decrease natural variety and diversity," it states.

"It is not only individual species of animals and plants that can become extinct for ever; whole systems, developed over many centuries, if not millennia, can also be irreplaceable."

The report observes that national nature reserves cover less than a hundredth of the area of Britain, and that only just over a quarter of that is owned by the council.

"Unless the nation is willing by one means or another to safeguard these crucially important parts of its heritage, we foresee the loss of irreplaceable sites and a harsh judgment by posterity on this generation," it says.

Fifth Report of the Nature Conservancy Council, 1 April 1979 to March 1979 (Stationery Office, £6).

Clash likely on new plan for west London relief road

by John Young

Fresh controversy seems likely to arise in the next few months over revived plans to build a north-south relief road through west London, between Shepherd's Bush and Chelsea Embankment.

The road would follow the same route as the previously proposed West Cross motorway, which was to have formed part of the inner London ringway and was abandoned in 1973. The main difference is that instead of being elevated over a railway tracks which pass through Olympia and West Brompton, it would run alongside them.

At present the Greater London Council will set a study in process, and that a report will be presented to its central area committee later this year. But it is thought that the report will almost certainly

come down in favour of such a road.

One of the factors influencing any decision will be the possibility of a Channel Tunnel terminal at West Brompton, Olympia or White City. The GLC would ideally prefer a terminal in the east London docklands, but that is unlikely to appeal to British Rail.

With or without such a terminal, residents' groups accept that there is an urgent need for a new road to take heavy traffic out of areas like Earl's Court. But they maintain that, without a new overpassing to Wandsworth, the road would merely funnel intolerable amounts of traffic on to the Embankment.

The resulting destruction of the Chelsea riverside, including such cherished and historic streets as Cheyne Walk, should be a matter of national, and not just local, concern, they say.

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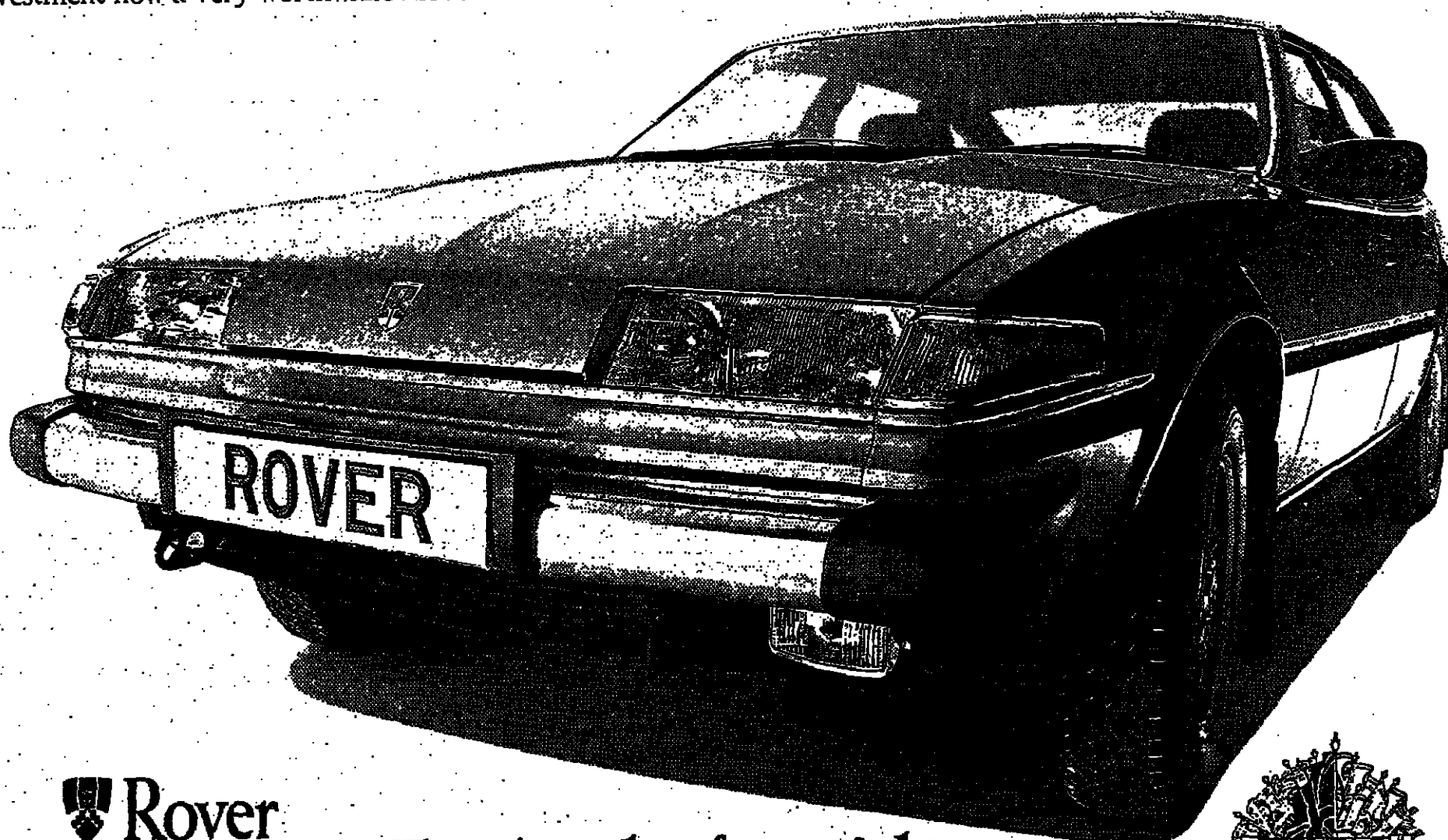
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HOME NEWS

Nurses may benefit through cut in hours

John Roper, with Services Correspondent

Hospital ward sisters on the minimum pay scale may benefit an extra £7 to £8 a week and an agreement reached yesterday on a shorter working week of 37½ hours.

The agreement was reached at a meeting of the General Medical Council, which decided at local health authorities, if they agreed that it was possible under strained budgets, could be allowed to introduce a shorter week from April 1, 1980.

Nurses who work for authorities who decide to take that step will receive the same wage they receive for the present hour week.

The Royal College of Nursing last night said it had no objection to the change.

Nurses' criticism of the current Clergy Commission's reliability award, which gave an average salary increase of 15.5 per cent at a cost of £11m, emphasized that the nurses were based on a 37½ hour week, although that was due to come in until April, 1981.

That, apparently, is still the intention, but if health authorities are in difficulties with, for example, wages, they may have to pay the extra 40-hour week they may be paid for the extra two and a half hours under what is called a time rate, a fraction of the weekly pay.

Ban by council staffs could increase bills for ratepayers

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

Ratepayers could be faced with even bigger bills than expected if the ban on work to send out rate demands by the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo) continues for more than a short while.

The refusal of local authority staff dealing with the rates, and those who are involved in the computers which work out the bills, could cause a serious shortage of money for councils.

That action was described yesterday as "an inbuilt stab in the back" at a time of serious financial and political difficulty by the Association of Councils, an independent group of local authority members. In a statement it said that the result of such action would be to force councils to borrow money at high interest rates to keep services going.

Nalgo, which represents 500,000 local authority workers, instructed its members on Tuesday to stop work on the collection of the rates, just as rate demands are being prepared throughout the country.

Mr. Richard Emmott, the deputy director of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, said the seriousness of the situation depended on how prolonged the ban was. "Rate demands go out from now, but local authorities do not expect to get much money in for a month after the financial year begins."

He pointed out that councils were not solely dependent on rate income, but would need to borrow money in the short term to fill the gap if the dispute was not settled quickly. "If there is a need to borrow money, the extra pressure might force interest rates up."

Mr. Brian Hill, secretary of the Rating and Valuation Association, commented: "If local authorities cannot get the demand notes out, people cannot pay because they will not know how much is due. That will face councils with borrowing, for which the rates are very high."

Mr. Hill said that some councils might have sufficient money in their contingency funds to pay a few bills, but that would not last long in most cases. "It might become necessary for councils to defer payment of some bills," he said.

One question was whether rating staff were to carry on with their work up to the point of posting the rate demands. If that was the case, there would be a further delay in completing the work, he said.

Most authorities use computers to process rate demands, and work on these will be almost completely shut down. In rural areas some of the smaller authorities may still have to get their demands out in time to arrive on April 1.

A strike of computer staff in London three years ago delayed bills to ratepayers in several boroughs for up to four months. Local government survived, and households eventually paid their bills.

Diving to be resumed on Henry VIII warship

By Annabel Ferriman

Diving is to begin again in three weeks on the Mary Rose, the 700-ton warship of Henry VIII which sank in the Solent in 1545, and it is hoped to raise the hull in the summer of 1982.

Members of the Mary Rose Trust, which was set up in 1978 to excavate the remains of the ship, announced yesterday their plans to explore it over the next two summers. Two hundred volunteer divers hope to retrieve weapons, clothing, cooking vessels and other personal objects before the ship is raised.

So far the ship, which was the pride of Henry VIII's fleet and probably sank because of poor handling and overloading, has produced Britain's earliest ship gun carriage, the earliest piece of dated English domestic pottery and a whole collection of longbows, arrows and other archery equipment, when previously only one Tudor arrow was known to exist in Britain.

Demijoes, gaming boards, combs and candlesticks have also been found.

More than £300,000 has been spent on exploring the wreck, which is said to be in excellent condition, but the total cost of removing the contents and lifting it is expected to be about £1.5m. About £100,000 has been raised or promised for this year's programme.

When lifted from the seabed, the ship is to be displayed in a new museum being planned at Portsmouth; the city council has earmarked a 12-acre site on former Ministry of Defence



A ship gun carriage, one of the earliest yet found, which came from the Mary Rose, a Tudor warship.

land at Eastney, near where the 130ft ship sank in full view of the king.

Although the starboard side of the ship has been well preserved by the fine silt of the Solent, the port side has been eroded, so only half the ship is left.

Mrs Margaret Rule, the project's archaeological director, said that the date of raising the ship has had to be postponed by a year to allow for 10 months' diving over the next

two years, instead of just seven months during this summer. Naval dockyard plan: Mr Keith Speed, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Royal Navy, has announced new long-term plans for the naval dockyard at Portsmouth (Our Portsmouth correspondent writes).

He is hoping that a section of the yard, including HMS Victory and the naval museum, will be fenced off as an exhibition area.

Fine art 'watchdogs' to fight amenity blight

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Royal Fine Art Commission intends to play a more active and interventionist role in preventing the modern blight of undesirable building developments.

Spurred by its new secretary, Mr. Sheraton Canaan, the former executive editor of *Architectural Review*, the august but hitherto somewhat reticent body held its first full-scale meeting with the press.

Its members, aware of past criticism of being toothless watchdogs, made clear that they did not seek a bureaucratic status whereby they would automatically be summoned to give their views at public inquiries.

They wished to maintain their independent advisory role and not to become too closely involved in planning procedures.

But it was generally admitted

that in many cases their advice had been sought far too late. Instead of being able to reject schemes altogether, they had been obliged to attempt to tidy them up and make them less obviously objectionable.

In future they would seek to improve communications so that they would be in a position to offer advice at an early stage before planning permission was granted or contracts let.

Sir Derman Christopherson, the commission's chairman, made clear that in some instances it would take a hard line and refuse to consider any development. As an example he cited the present plans to build houses in the grounds of Writtlebury, overlooking Hampstead Heath.

The commission also announced yesterday that it had joined forces with the Historic Buildings Council in opposing in principle any building in churchyards.

Farmland loss 'accelerating'

By Our Planning Reporter

A call for alternatives to the accelerating loss of farmland to sand and gravel extraction was made yesterday by Mr. Fionn Holford-Walker, secretary of the Council for the Protection of Rural England.

Alternatives should include restoration and conservation of materials by renovating buildings rather than tearing them down; the use of low-grade materials where possible; the extension of railways to obviate new road building; the reduction of constraints on marine dredging; and possibly

the creation of coastal "super-quarries".

Mr. Holford-Walker, who was addressing a seminar in London on mineral extraction and planning organized by the Town and Country Planning Association, said that of present trends nearly 200 square miles of Britain would be worked for sand and gravel in the next 20 years.

"With 117 square miles of farmland being lost to other uses every year, the nation cannot afford erosion of its agricultural assets on this scale," he said.

EEC plan for language aid to minorities

Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Educationalists are being led in an EEC directive to reduce a new approach to teaching children of ethnic minorities with language difficulties.

In a new quarterly, the *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, Dr. Rity Salihullah Khan describes "disturbing" a trend showing a loss of total communication between parents and children in minority families before the child starts school.

"In some cases minority children refuse to speak the other tongue at home except an essential for example in a non-English-speaking rent."

After a time many parents in minority families appreciate their culture and language as being undervalued, she says. Minority families may consider their language to be a vital characteristic of their culture and identity, and essential to their religion.

Conversely, in several minorities there are indications that several decades hence there will be many children aged five living school who can speak only English.

The EEC directive about the provision of teaching in the child's mother tongue has been widely debated. It does not like the provision compulsory it says it should depend on national circumstances and local systems.

The directive carries a statement of intent that facilities could be provided for children of immigrant workers from outside the EEC.

Dr. Khan, director of the Linguistic Minorities Project at London University's Institute of Education, says the debate has involved parents and bodies from various minorities organizations providing and expressing views.

The Coordinating Committee for Mother-tongue Teaching, involving European, South Asian and other minorities, was founded in 1976.

The Department of Education and Science has founded a project teaching the mother tongue in schools in Bradford.

Development appears to be in favour of bilingual education as a transitional measure to help the move to English. Instruction in the mother tongue enables the normal curriculum to be carried on while English is taught as a second language.

"The type of scheme, as yet unknown in Britain, that aims at maintenance and literacy of the mother tongue, would involve, some would argue, the ongoing use of both languages as mediums of instruction throughout the school."

Results of research among Finnish children in Sweden indicate, for example, that those children who had the opportunity to develop their mother tongue were the best learners of Swedish. "These results suggest that, at least in this situation, children will not learn the second language properly unless they first develop their mother tongue."

Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development (Tieto Ltd, 4 Bellevue Mansions, Bellevue Road, Clevedon, Avon, BS21 7NU. Annual subscription for individuals, £5.50).

Lord Butler calls for new law on arranged killers

Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Government failure to act on recommendations by the Committee on Abnormal Offenders is criticized by Lord Butler.

Saffron Walden, the committee's chairman, said: "He spoke to the Griffiths inquiry in London of 'worrying work' caused by failure to interpret legislation a new formula to guide judges in sentencing murderers whose minds were disordered."

Judges rely on the M'Naghten Rules, made in 1840. "We are informed by many who see these rules were outdated," Lord Butler said.

His committee regretted the lack of a protective environment for inadequate in local psychiatric hospitals. Sometimes they were glad to get back to prison, where they and the routine familiar.

Lord Butler spoke of delay providing security units for mentally disordered. "It is 15 years since those proposals were made and accepted by a considerable body of public opinion." He hoped the Government would not neglect that recommendation.

No-go areas for NF seen as desirable

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr. Maryn Rees, shadow Home Secretary, said yesterday that there were certain areas of high immigration where the National Front should not be allowed to march.

He told a Commonwealth Institute seminar on race relations that it would be difficult, however, to frame legislation to cover such a ban.

Speaking more generally about demonstrations, he said: "As Home Secretary I would not want to take the basic decision on whether to ban a march. It would be done on a subjective basis because the Home Secretary did not like the views expressed."

He spoke of the need for leadership in race relations because, left to itself, "there is very strong anti-immigrant and anti-colour feeling in this country."

Mr. Rees explained that he was not saying that people with those feelings would support the National Front. "From necessity or fear such people were racialist. He saw such feelings in the context of withdrawal from Empire and a greater sense of insecurity."

He said that a committee which had been examining the question of ordination over the past few years had noted that elsewhere in the Anglican Communion it had proved to be divisive.

of ordination. Nobody, man or woman, has a right to ordination."

It has been argued, he said, that there were no fundamental objections to the ordination of women, but that was not to say that there were no theological objections, which were not fundamental but which mattered to many people.

He said that a committee which had been examining the question of ordination over the past few years had noted that elsewhere in the Anglican Communion it had proved to be divisive.

Dublin synod in favour of ordaining women

Our Correspondent

The Dublin and Glendalough diocese of the Church of Ireland cleared itself in favour of the ordination of women to the priesthood at its meeting on Sunday. It has also voted in favour of the remarriage of divorced persons in church.

The Archbishop of Dublin, the Rev. Henry McAdams, said the matter of ordaining men to the priesthood ought to be decided on the basis of women's rights. "This has to do with the question



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MAKE THE MOST OF ENERGY

HOME NEWS

European transport chief calls on Britain and France to make Channel tunnel decision this year

By Michael Daily
Transport Correspondent

In a strong appeal to Britain and France to reach early agreement on the Channel tunnel, Mr Richard Burke, the European Economic Community's Commissioner for Transport, said yesterday: "The time has come to make up our minds. The time is historically attuned to this great enterprise."

Speaking in London in the first of a series of press conferences to stimulate public interest in the project, Mr Burke, formerly the Irish Republic's Foreign Minister, said he wanted to "get a decision this year or go down as the guy who tried and failed."

While it was for the Government to decide whether to go ahead, the EEC would give strong support to a proposal of positive benefit to the Community's trade and tourism, he said.

The extent of EEC financial support would be for the Community to decide, but there were several possibilities in the form of loans or grants. They should be seen as a longer rather than a short-term response to Britain's budgetary difficulties with the EEC, and would not preclude short-term help for other transport projects.

Mr Burke declined to choose between the different kinds of



Mr Richard Burke: "The Community will benefit."

Channel link, as that also was for the Government to decide, but said that the study for the commission by the consultants, Coopers and Lybrand, showed that all would pass the test set by the Treasury for public sector projects.

The single-tube rail tunnel proposed by British and French railways had a particular attraction as the most modest of the

schemes, and one well within budget possibilities in inflationary times.

It would have the highest rate of return overall and cause least disturbance to the environment, but would do little for car and lorry transport.

A common sense solution might be an interim single-tube tunnel which could later be extended to a double tunnel or tunnel-bridge.

Mr Burke said it was clear from the Coopers and Lybrand study that the project would benefit the Community overall, although the main advantages would obviously go to Britain and France. Other members would benefit when industrial activity and trade were taken into account.

The net effect would be that a tunnel-bridge would make the Community as a whole better off, and even if Britain and France were to receive aid for the project, the benefits to the other members could offset it.

He was pleased that members of the European Parliament had consistently given the proposal strong support. The Council of Ministers was due to meet in June, possibly a critical date for those who believe the Channel link was long overdue.

"My job is to push as hard as I can," Mr Burke said. "Let us decide to do it or stop messing about."

Old Father Thames gets a bank account

By Alan Hamilton

A £1m appeal fund was launched in London yesterday to provide a comfortable pension for Old Father Thames and to help to eradicate the scars of a lifetime's drudgery as a commercial highway and public rubbish tip.

London's prime natural asset, its river, is now cleaner than it has been for centuries, as industry has gravitated downstream to the sea. But although the water is pure enough for salmon to breathe, the Thames banks and islands still in many places carry the stigma of neglect.

The Thames Heritage Trust, set up and registered as a charity last year, announced yesterday that it had received donations worth £100,000 towards its target, together with a sum of £250,000 at Kingston upon Thames to build a Thames educational centre, museum and possibly an aquarium.

The fund is supported by a number of industrial and commercial companies on or near the river, and the appeal was set rolling last year with a £1,000 donation from Barclays Bank at Windsor.

Last month the trust carried out its first project, the planting of trees at Teddington Lock, where the tidal Thames meets the sleeper upper reaches. Future projects are likely to be on a similar small scale, dealing with the erosion of riverbanks, replacement of riverside trees, conversion of old gravel workings into marinas and the removal of driftwood and rubbish from the water.

The trust has made itself studiously non-political. Mr John Coleman, chairman of the fund and of a riverside electronics company at Feltham, said yesterday: "There is a need for people to be more conscious of the dangers of pollution, and to have more respect for the river."

"It is up to us, the public, to take the necessary action, and we need the trust to be able to provide professional advice and financial resources free from any political or government influence."

Mrs Margaret Powell, the trust organizer, said the trust's purpose was to act chiefly as a bank rather than a pressure group.

Open government 'might erode neutrality of civil servants'

By Peter Hennessy

A confidential report on open government prepared for the Association of First Division Civil Servants (FDCS), the union representing Whitehall's senior administrators, economists, statisticians and lawyers, has found that the "Civil Service could probably live with a freedom of information Act without too much difficulty".

The FDCS is given a warning, however, that disclosure of private advice by civil servants to ministers on contentious policy issues could have serious constitutional implications, leading to political influence on senior Whitehall appointments and the erosion of the tradition of a politically neutral Civil Service.

The report, which the FDCS executive committee decided last week to keep secret, was drafted by a team of three chaired by Mr Stephen Linstead, an assistant secretary at the Department of Trade. Its other members were Mr Brian O'Brien, chairman of the FDCS, and an assistant solicitor at the Law Commission, and Mr Lawrence Brandes, an under-secretary at the Department of Education and Science.

Mr Linstead, in a research paper on which the report was based, suggests that to avoid extensive litigation a British freedom of information Act should be administered by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (the Ombudsman).

"It might also be desirable to carry out a pilot study in one or more departments to gauge the extent of public demand for

disclosure of documents and to provide a more reliable estimate of the cost of a more general scheme", he adds.

The research paper was originally intended for circulation to FDCS members as a discussion document. The FDCS executive committee decided last Thursday, however, that its release would not be timely. Mr John Ward, the association's general secretary, explained:

"The executive thought it was an extremely valuable reference paper. They felt, however, that it was not a subject of overriding interest to members at the moment, as they are primarily concerned with pay and pensions. On

the other hand, the committee is aware that open government could become a live issue at any moment, so the report should be kept on file."

Mr Linstead believes that three results are possible if, under a British freedom of information statute, official advice to ministers was disclosed.

1. Officials would offer advice on roughly the same basis as at present. Parliament and the media would take note, and might criticize the advice given, but there would be no outside attempts to have particular officials removed, promoted or transferred on account of the advice rendered. Ministers would remain responsible for defending their decisions in Parliament.

2. Officials would offer advice on the same basis as before, but attention focused on this advice (perhaps out of context) would make it difficult for certain officials to be appointed in particular posts or to be promoted to others. In the long run the senior ranks of the Civil Service, whether filled by career civil servants or from outside, would become posts of political convenience.

3. Because of developments at (2) or in anticipation of them, officials would offer balanced but totally anonymous advice, reserving their personal views for use only in interviews with ministers or their colleagues.

Mr Linstead concludes that political convenience would play a part in senior Whitehall appointments if advice was disclosed. At present officials were appointed under the Royal Prerogative and it would be easy for ministers to sidestep the Civil Service Commission, the watchdog since the last century against political patronage in Whitehall.



Mr Stephen Linstead: Call for study on disclosure.

Scum and Stop join forces against Dig

By Kenneth Gosling

The archaeological estimate yesterday started a campaign to persuade public that hunting for treasure with metal detectors not only antisocial but harmful to the national tapestry.

On a more practical level, it was pointed out that a crack of gold average searcher is more to wind up with a bin or a handful of ring pull beer cans.

Yesterday's press conference by Stop (Stop Taking On) had been anticipated on day by the metal detecting Dig, which managed a campaign material. Two representatives who attended the conference told to leave.

The battle lines were drawn up by Stop. "It is hunting in the news," Stop said. "First it is Irish chalice, now it is and ill informed statements out by Dig. Against Dig ranged the forces of St

Mr Peter Addyman, Standing Conference of Managers (Scum), representative professional archaeologists, directors, said: "We are appalled by the thought one of the biggest of our archaeological heritage is not quarries, motor new buildings in towns, but hundreds of thousands of people with metal detectors going out at weekends with the best intentions, but the best intentions, metal objects etc interest or value."

Britain was an archaeological site which contained potential for writing it. Mr Henry Cleere, director of the Council for British Archaeology, said: "We are appalled by the thought one of the biggest of our archaeological heritage is not quarries, motor new buildings in towns, but hundreds of thousands of people with metal detectors going out at weekends with the best intentions, but the best intentions, metal objects etc interest or value."

Man jailed for life after second killing

From Our Correspondent
Nottingham

Harold Blackburn, aged 43, who was jailed for seven years 11 years ago for killing a widow, was sentenced by Mr Justice Balcombe at Nottingham Crown Court yesterday to life imprisonment for another killing. The judge recommended that he serve at least 15 years.

Mr Blackburn, a labourer, of Wensleydale Road, Long Eaton, Derbyshire, was convicted of the murder of Mrs Bernadine Gayle, aged 50, at her home in Bennett Street, Long Eaton. He had pleaded not guilty.

Former mayors for trial on corruption charges

Two former mayors of Port Talbot, West Glamorgan, two businessmen and two companies were committed for trial at Cardiff Crown Court by Mr Alan Phillips, the Mid Glamorgan Stipendiary Magistrate, yesterday on conspiracy and corruption charges. Bail was allowed.

The accused are the former mayors, Graham Griffiths, aged 70, of Bromhill Street, and James Hughes Warren, aged 52, of Acacia Close, both Port Talbot; Clifford John Thomas Brown, aged 51, a company director, of Owls Lodge Lane, Mayals, Swansea; and Peter

Wyndham Gash, aged 53, a company director, of Merthyr Mawr Road, Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan.

Also charged are two companies, Transwide Travel Ltd, of Forge Road, Port Talbot, and Andrew Scott (Civil Engineers), of The Grange, Port Talbot.

The four men and the two companies face a total of 45 charges.

Mr Michael Ryan, for the prosecution, said there were 46 witnesses and 1,300 exhibits. It is alleged that the two former councillors received free accommodation and meals at several London hotels between the beginning of 1971 and the end of 1974.

Employers aiding social security frauds

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Efforts to find a way of punishing employers who collude with social security fraud have failed, Mr Arthur Howell, head of policy on fraud at the Department of Health and Social Security, said last night.

Drives begun under the previous Labour government had failed to find any methods of tackling that area of fraud that were cost effective, he said on the BBC radio programme File on Four.

Successive Governments have stated that working while drawing benefit is the main area of social security fraud. It is

helped by collusive employers who take on casual staff knowing that they are already drawing benefit.

Professor David Donaldson, chairman of the Supplementary Benefits Commission, said on the programme that any government that meant business about tackling social security fraud must go for the employers.

But Mr Howell said that various studies, conducted when Mr Stanley Orme was Minister for Social Security, had failed to find ways of tackling it where the return outweighed the extra effort put in.

Asked if that did not mean that collusive employers could assume that they were safe from detection, Mr Howell said: "That is uncomfortably near the truth."

Mr Howell was taking part in a programme examining the Government's new anti-fraud campaign, under which 1,000 new fraud specialists are being appointed and a target of £50m in savings has been set for 1980-81.

The programme was criticised by Mr Stanley Orme, Labour spokesman on social security.

The top amount of fraud estimated while he was minister was not more than £10m a year, he said.

Health of workers using herbicides to be surveyed

Ban weedkiller 2,4,5-T, report says

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A survey of the health of workers in agriculture, forestry and local authorities exposed to pesticides and herbicides is to be made in Britain for the first time.

One of the investigations has been agreed between the Forestry Commission and the National Union of Agriculture and Allied Workers covering all the chemicals used in forestry.

A second and wider study is being planned by the General and Municipal Workers' Union with the agricultural workers and eight other unions.

The survey with the Forestry Commission comes after an intensive campaign by the unions against the weedkiller 2,4,5-T, which has been under scrutiny for many months.

That inquiry has produced a report, published yesterday by the NAAAW, which proposes a ban on 2,4,5-T and a more

rigorous procedure for determining the safety of pesticides and for licensing their use.

That document focuses particularly on the hazards of the weedkiller 2,4,5-T and the damage it is alleged to have caused through the contamination of workers in agriculture and forestry.

The evidence has to be taken as circumstantial because there is no adequate medical basis on which to judge the information.

But the incidence of certain conditions, and in particular miscarriages among wives who have been contaminated and more general debilitating illnesses among workers, is consistent with a similar pattern identified in other countries.

The report, prepared by Mr Christopher Kaufman with union colleagues in Britain and Europe and university research scientists, emphasizes that alternative methods of weed control are available.

It is also very critical of the Pesticides Act, 1972, and the Ministry of Agriculture. Although the committee has considered it of 2,4,5-T eight times, Mr Kaufman maintains it has weighed the evidence properly.

Its advice that 2,4,5-T be used as "directed" is regarded as being complete of touch with the real spraying conditions rather conditions in a well laboratory.

The main difference between NAAAW and the Pe Advisory Committee is on dangers to be attached presence of the contaminant dioxin in 2,4,5-T.

In eight years the Forestry Commission has revised the limit of permissible amounts of dioxin to 10 times less 1972.

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Eton's nuclear shelter 'not big enough'

Boys at Eton College have been told that the school has a secret underground blast shelter as a safeguard against nuclear attack, but the bunker, with thick, reinforced concrete walls and an elaborate network of passages and compartments, could house less than half the boys.

Jonathan Bond, a pupil writing in the *Eton College Chronicle*, states that 500 could be crammed into the "man-made rabbit warren". The other 700 would have to seek refuge in bomb shelters built during the past war and now used as gardening sheds, bowling alleys or for storing junk.

He says: "Recent political events demand that the school make the necessary provisions and conversions where appropriate to ensure that every member of the school would have a place in some sort of nuclear shelter."

Cook gets 'life' for ship murder

John Joseph McMullan, aged 30, a ship's second cook, who was said to have used one of his galley knives to murder a fellow seaman on board a ferry, was jailed at the High Court in Dumfries yesterday for life. He denied murder but the jury, by a majority verdict, convicted him.

Mr McMullan, of Havana Walk, Belfast, went to the cabin of Able Seaman Charles Axon, aged 45, after a dispute in the crew's mess over lack of service at the dining table, it was stated. On his deathbed Mr Axon said Mr McMullan stabbed him.

Woman trapped in pit

Mrs Ethel Jones, aged 76, was trapped for an hour yesterday with a broken leg when she fell into a 15 feet pit that opened in the garden of her home in St Paul's Cray, Kent.



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WEST EUROPE

French try to forestall
Thatcher budget
strategy at summit

From Michael Hornsby
Paris, March 12

In an intensification of the Anglo-French war of nerves for the next EEC summit, France today deployed a strategy to forestall a possible budget strategy at the summit.

A statement issued after the weekly meeting of the French cabinet said that unless such a proposal was forthcoming within a reasonable period of time, France would refuse to consider it or any other proposal which might be put forward during the summit discussion in Brussels on March 13 and April 1.

A spokesman for the Commission has expressed "puzzlement and concern" at the French statement. It was noted that the Commission had submitted a paper last week to the EEC Council of Ministers suggesting the opening of a special credit line in the budget through which to channel extra Community expenditure in Britain.

The paper identified transport infrastructure, the coal industry, urban renewal and development projects in Northern Ireland as the most suitable areas for such expenditure, which could be designed to raise the level of British receipts on the budget, three-quarters of which is spent on agriculture.

It is argued that the French do not consider this specific enough to count as a formal

proposal and are looking to the Commission to suggest what it thinks would be a reasonable reduction in Britain's estimated contribution to the budget this year of £1,300m.

The Commission spokesman said that the ideas in the February paper would be developed further before the summit in the light of discussion of them next week by EEC finance and foreign ministers. But the Commission did not accept that it was under any obligation to put a total figure on the amount of financial relief Britain should be granted.

At most, the spokesman indicated, the Commission might submit a list of possible EEC spending projects in Britain, estimated at the sum of £1,000m, leaving it up to heads of government to choose from among them.

Mr Roy Jenkins, the Commission president, has always resisted pressure to put a figure on the amount of relief Britain should get, mainly because of the "unlikelihood" known to the French of his finding majority support in the Commission for anything close to what Mrs Thatcher is demanding.

Observers here saw the latest French move as being designed first to restrict Mrs Thatcher's room for manoeuvre in advance of the summit, and second, to provide an excuse if needed for refusing to meet British demands at the summit. The French could argue that they had not received a proper proposal from the Commission.

Paris to hold out against
Britain on lamb dispute

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 12

France will not yield anything in the dispute over exports of lamb, a ministerial meeting has decided in discussions to prepare for the European summit in Brussels at the end of this month, ministers decided today.

Isolated at the summit, French ministers decided that no concession would be made to Britain so long as it opposed an equitable and effective solution of this problem, the official statement said afterwards.

"Sheep farmers have the right to the same protection as cattle breeders," the statement said.

The meeting also concluded that the price increases for farm products proposed for this year by the European Commission were inadequate, especially for lamb. It wanted a price rise which would make it possible to maintain the price level in France in 1980.

As the difficulties of the European budget, the statement said that France had put forward a programme of savings and proposals to reduce the net

burden on the European agricultural fund; to "reduce the burden of milk products".

M. Pierre Méhaignerie, the Minister for Agriculture, was given the mission of obtaining in coming negotiations a reinforcement of the three fundamental principles of the common agricultural policy, which are threatened in the government's view by the policy of the British Government, namely: unity of price, financial solidarity and Community preference.

The prospects of a compromise agreement on Britain's budget problem, on customs, fish and other controversial issues, are therefore almost nil, the more so that the French Government, as President Giscard insisted on television recently, regards them as part of a package, and will not settle on one without agreement on the others.

Mr Raymond Barre, the French Prime Minister, said last week that France was "going to be rock hard on sheep", and added that it was not the only thing on which France would adopt such a stance.

Wide support by
Euro-MPs for
single passport

From David Wood
Paris, March 12

All the main groups in the European Parliament today supported the long discussed proposal for a European Community passport. The British Government supports it also, except that it wants any Community passport to include the credit card type of passport, which can be "read" by a machine and which the International Civil Aviation Authority wants introduced as soon as possible.

The British Foreign Office, in discussions that began six years ago, now agrees to the principle of a common passport, but the nine, although it wants to include it at the front of the basic passport card favoured by the ICAAs. In that way, it is argued, it would have distinctively British passports with the benefit of quicker processing at ports of entry.

Cardinal goes
to Moscow
for church talks

From Our Correspondent
Rome, March 12

While one cardinal is in China, another flew today to Moscow at the head of a delegation to participate in theological discussions as guests of the Russian Orthodox Church.

"Local church, Universal church" is the theme of the talks, which on the Roman Catholic side, will be conducted by a team under Cardinal Jan Willebrands, president of the Secretariat for Christian Unity.

Cardinal Willebrands is accompanied by Mr Antoine Bevilacqua, a Canadian, who is Archbishop of Saint Boniface and member of the Secretariat; Mr Lucas Moreira Neves, a Brazilian, secretary of the Congregation for Bishops; and five other prelates.

Meanwhile Cardinal Franz Koenig of Vienna is on a private visit to China.

Fugitive brothers said
to owe £33m in tax

From John Keville
Rome, March 12

The Italian Parliament yesterday said that 32 companies belonging to the Calabrone brothers—three building contractors who went abroad to escape arrest—owed taxes amounting to about £33m in the period 1974-76.

Most of this was unpaid company tax, and the rest unpaid value added tax, according to the Italian Revenue Minister, who was replying to questions about subsequent financial years was not available.

Gaetano, Camillo and Francesco Calabrone obtained more than 200,000 lire (£108m) in loans which have not been repaid to Italcas, the Central Institute of Savings Banks, and 9 of the brothers' companies

have been declared insolvent with an exposure of about 160,000 lire.

The brothers are central figures in the so-called Italcas scandal, which has brought the arrest of 40 leading bankers and industrialists and the resignation of Signor Franco Evangelisti, an associate of Signor Giulio Andreotti, as Minister of Merchant Marine.

Signor Evangelisti admitted taking money from Signor Gaetano Calabrone, but said many other Christian Democrats did as well.

Parliament has so far refused to lift the immunity of the treasurers of the Christian Democratic, Socialist, Social Democratic and Republican parties, which would allow their alleged involvement in the Italcas affair to be investigated.

Liberals court Greek party

From Mario Modiano
Athens, March 12

A delegation from the British Liberal Party arrived in Athens today to explore the possibility of associating with the ruling New Democracy party when Greece joins the European community.

The delegation, which is led by Mr Russell Johnston, the Liberal Member of Parliament for Inverness, includes Lord

Gladwyn and Lord Baines, as well as a number of representatives of groups linked to the Liberal Party.

The New Democracy party of Mr Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, draws its strength mainly from the conservative electorate, but as it aspires to encompass also the centre of the Greek political spectrum, the initiative of the British Liberals is flattering.

Pink granite coast should be clean in time for tourists

Soldiers with buckets and spades
dig oil from Brittany beaches

From Ian Murray
Ploumanach, Brittany
March 12

The walrus and the carpenter would weep like anything to see such quantities of oil-soaked sand. Fortunately there are more than seven miles of beach, seven miles available and every one hopes it will take much less than half a year to sweep it clean.

By now there should be at least 1,000 French soldiers deployed along the 10 miles or so of coastline worst affected by the 3,000 tonnes of black heavy oil which escaped from the tanker Tanco when it broke in two in Channel storms last Friday morning.

Helped by many volunteers, they are now operating according to the Palmer plan, which was drawn up to deal with such oil pollution after the wreck of the Amoco-Cadiz, almost exactly two years ago.

These soldiers on the beaches are armed with the most modern equipment known for dealing with heavy oil when washed ashore—buckets and spades.

This little fishing village, at the centre of what is rightly called the pink granite coast, is once more at the centre of a black oil tide.

The whitewashed and stone houses circle the little sheltered harbour, in which the greasy water dully reflects the painted hulls of fishing boats and pleasure launches. The lichen on

the pink rocks is black, shiny and doubtless dead by now. A fresh mark, straight as a Plimsoll line, shows where the last high tide reached up the banks.

Behind the headland on St Guire beach, the soldiers are at work in bright yellow, dirty oilskins, shovelling the black muck, thick as chocolate sauce, into green, plastic buckets. Others drive bulldozers back and forth, sloshing the oil water up the beach. Vast sheets of black plastic are spread over the beach walls in pessimistic anticipation of next week's high spring tides.

The soldiers shovel frantically, powerless as Canute before the advancing tides. Their orders are to put as much of the oil as possible into their buckets. These are emptied into waiting lorries to be carried inland and poured into plastic-lined trenches out of harm's way.

The next tide brings in yet more oil, but all the time the amount at sea is diminishing. By the end of the month, they hope, it will be gone.

On a grassy knoll overlooking the beach, stands M. Jacques Barrot, a one-legged seaman, who laughs at the soldiers' efforts. He has seen this before—in 1967 when Torrey Canyon oil 18in thick arrived on the beach and again two years ago when part of the Amoco Cadiz cargo washed ashore.

"Poor lads", he says. "They are only conscripts and don't

know what they're doing. They should dynamite the rocks out there, seal off the beach and scoop it all up. But they are conscripts and therefore they cost nothing an dbar is why we've got them. This mess is all a question of money in the end."

This pretty coastline was designed by nature to catch tourists and well as oil and the great fear locally is that bad publicity about the Tanco will ruin the summer season. In consequence the authorities are anxious to say that the oil ashore along the coast is not very serious. Compared with other years it is not.

Certainly the one-legged fisherman who knows about these things, is not over-worried. "They'll even be catching more fish than usual", he said. "Fish always follow the oil although you can't always eat what you catch, unless you want heartburn."

The pink granite coast should be clear again by the start of the season and tourists can look forward to using their buckets and spades.

Portion decked: The stern half of the Tanco was safely docked in Le Havre today by tugs.

Work was expected to begin soon on pumping out the 13,000 tons of oil in its seven tanks.

The sunken portion, still in the sea, contains another 10,000 tons of oil, which is expected to pose no immediate threat of pollution. — Agence France-Presse.

OVERSEAS

Failure of
Mr Botha
to oust
rival

From Our Correspondent
Cape Town, March 12

An uneasy peace is in force between the warring factions in the National Government following a cabinet session yesterday and a meeting of the National Party parliamentary caucus today, at which it was agreed to close ranks.

Although no details have been made public of either meeting, it is plain that the Prime Minister, Mr P. W. Botha, who was seeking to oust his troublesome right-wing colleague, Dr A. P. Treurnicht, found himself unable to do so without risking a split in the National Party.

Observers here see Mr Botha's failure to get rid of Dr Treurnicht, leader of the National Party in Transvaal, as a blow to his credibility. Dr Treurnicht, who has been opposing Mr Botha's reformist policies, commands a formidable power base. He now is free to carry on as a member of the Cabinet, inhibiting

Unless he subsequently moves against Dr Treurnicht, Mr Botha will be in danger of becoming a captive of the party's reactionary right wing, unable to pursue his plans for constitutional reform.

The latest Treurnicht-Botha row stems from comments made by Dr Treurnicht in which he opposed plans for Coloured (mixed-race) teams to play against white teams in an annual rugby tournament. Mr Botha publicly rebuked Dr Treurnicht.

Apartheid law review
agreed by churches

Four of the principal churches in South Africa have announced that they will have no objection if the Government reconsiders the laws which bar set and marriage across the colour line. The Immorality and Mixed Marriages Acts are considered pillars of the apartheid system.

The Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk group of churches, meeting in Cape Town, declared: "On the ground of the decisions of the four churches it can be considered that should the authorities decide that the circumstances were propitious to reconsider these Acts, the churches would have no objections in principle against the re-examination."

Both the Acts have caused untold hardship and heartbreak in the past.

They have come in for strong criticism as being among the most offensive of apartheid laws which Mr Pieter Botha, the Prime Minister, has pledged to remove from the statute book.

At the same time the four churches—the NGK (for whites), the NG Kerk in Afrika which represents blacks, the NG Sendingkerk for coloureds (mixed race people), and the Reformed Church in Africa, representing Indians—are concerned about their own relationships.

There have been several defections recently from the white NGK to the black NGK, notably by the banned former moderator of the Transvaal Synod, the Rev Beyers Naude, who has forsaken the white church for a black congregation.

Dr F. O'Brien Geldenhuys, Moderator of the white NGK, refused to make any comment on the Cape Town statement. It is considered, however, that the churches are concerned more with their own unity than with giving a guide on the sex law issues to the 3.5 million Afrikaners who are members.

Dr Obote to fight election

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, March 12

Dr Milton Obote, the former Ugandan President, who has lived in exile in Dar es Salaam since being overthrown by former President Amin in 1971, confirmed today that he would lead his Uganda People's Congress (UPC) in the Ugandan elections which are due to take place by June, 1981.

In one of his rare public comments, Dr Obote said in

Dar es Salaam that he would return to Uganda once the election date is announced. He believed the UPC was the biggest party in Uganda, and would win the election—making him the automatic candidate for president.

Relations between Tanzania and the Government of President Binaisa in Uganda have been deteriorating recently. Dr Obote says he and the UPC have close relations with Tanzania.

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The SAAB 900 GLS 3 door hatchback, simulated urban driving—24.1 mpg (11.7 litres per 100 km); constant speed driving 30 mph (48 km/h)—16.8 mpg (13.4 litres per 100 km); constant speed driving 100 mph (160 km/h)—24.1 mpg (11.7 litres per 100 km).
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T.13/3

OVERSEAS

'Sunshine-state' victories for Mr Carter and Mr Reagan cast a gloom on other candidates

From David Cross
Miami, March 12

The results of voting in yesterday's presidential primaries in three Southern states, which produced more handsome victories for President Carter and Mr Ronald Reagan, offered little comfort to the losers.

Mr George Bush, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, in particular, who spent last weekend in Florida after polls showed he might be closing the gap on Mr Reagan, received less than a third of the votes in that state. Mr John Anderson, a congressman from Illinois, who never campaigned at all in "sunshine" state, finished a respectable third with 9 per cent of the votes after his recent successes in the North.

The story was much the same for Senator Edward Kennedy, who could muster only a 23 per cent share of the vote in Florida, compared with 61 per cent for Mr Carter. Nearly 10 per cent of Democrats in this state showed they were not charmed by both candidates by casting "no preference" votes.

In Georgia and Alabama, the margins of victory for Mr Carter and Mr Reagan were even more impressive. The President's home state gave him an overwhelming 88 per cent share of the vote, against a meagre 9 per cent for Senator Kennedy; in Alabama, the President's victory was only slightly less overwhelming—82 per cent to 13 per cent.

Georgia handed Mr Reagan his biggest share of the votes in the three states—23 per cent, compared to 13 per cent for Mr Bush and 9 per cent for Mr Anderson.

In Alabama, where Mr Bush had also campaigned actively during a final whistle-tour of the South, the former

Governor of California gained 69 per cent of the vote, against 26 per cent for his leading rival.

When the results were relayed to Mr Reagan at his home in California last night, he was almost speechless. "I didn't dare let myself hope for it," he told his supporters in Florida by telephone. Asked in a television interview whether he still regarded Mr Bush as an important opponent, he seemed doubtful.

For Mr Bush, who has scored only one modest win in Massachusetts since his early victories over Mr Reagan in Maine and Iowa, the Florida result was a bitter disappointment. He could say only that he would continue "to plug away" at the task of picking up delegates to the Republican national convention in Detroit this summer. "I might surprise people in Illinois," he added.

Senator Kennedy, who expected to do badly in all yesterday's primaries, felt it politic not to appear before reporters to comment on the outcome.

Instead, Mr Patrick Lucey, his deputy campaign manager, said in Washington that the results were "very consistent with our expectations". He reaffirmed that the senator from Massachusetts intended to stay in the race, and he predicted that the economic state of life would turn the tide against Mr Carter.

Serious economic problems, like high inflation and interest rates, did not appear to feature prominently among the reasons why voters in the South gave their support to President Carter. In general terms, Mr Kennedy still carries the burden of Chappaquiddick and is perceived as a dangerous liberal by the mainly conservative Democratic voters in this part of the country.

The single hopeful sign for the senator's presidential ambitions was that the Jewish voters in Florida rallied to his side in large numbers after the President's mishandling of the Middle East vote in the United Nations. In a few areas of the state heavily populated by Jews, Mr Kennedy managed to beat Mr Carter.

The focus of the presidential election campaign now moves north to Illinois, which holds its primary next week. Already the odds are bad for Mr Bush and Senator Kennedy.

On the Republican side, two public opinion polls published by the *Chicago Tribune* and a local television station indicate that Mr Bush is trailing both Mr Reagan and Mr Anderson. Indeed, Mr Anderson, whose liberal credentials have made him a cult figure since his successes in Massachusetts and Vermont a week ago, is slightly ahead of his rivals in his home state.

In Illinois, Mr Anderson and Mr Bush are likely to split the liberal vote and this will inevitably help Mr Reagan, on the conservative wing of the party. Mr Reagan's main concern is no longer Mr Bush. Former President Ford was in Washington today to discuss the possibility of a late entry into the Republican race. If he does that, Mr Reagan's lead could conceivably topple the present front runner, although most political experts believe he may already be too late.

Even in Illinois, where he has the support of Mrs Jane Byrne, the influential Mayor of Chicago, Senator Kennedy is still trailing far behind President Carter. The latest opinion poll shows he has the support of only 23 per cent of the electorate, compared with 62 per cent for Mr Carter.

Leading article, page 17



Former President Gerald Ford leaves his Washington office for Bethesda Naval Hospital for his annual medical check.

Inquest 'not told of Kennedy calls'

From Robert Pear
Washington, March 12

Records of Senator Edward Kennedy's telephone calls in the hours after the accident at Chappaquiddick were withheld by the telephone company from an inquest into the death of Mary Jo Kopechne without the knowledge of the Assistant District Attorney who asked for them.

The records, which had been subpoenaed as a key piece of information in the case, could help confirm Mr Kennedy's account of what happened after he drove off the bridge with Miss Kopechne in his car shortly before midnight on July 18, 1969.

The records could resolve questions about the activities of Mr Kennedy and his associates in the 10 crucial hours between the time of the accident and the time the senator reported it to the police.

The telephone company submitted to the court only one of

at least four lists of calls in its possession. Mr Kennedy said in an interview yesterday that the only calls he made were those he described in the inquest testimony, and none of those calls were on the list submitted.

But the senator, who had been questioned about the list several times over the past decade, said he had always assumed that telephone company officials had complied fully with the court subpoena. And he stood by his previous account that he made no calls before 8 am on July 19.

The Edgar Town District Court, which conducted the January 1970 inquest, had issued a subpoena for all calls billed to any of the senator's telephone credit cards the day of the accident and the day after.

Mr Armando Fernandes, the Assistant District Attorney who handled this aspect of the case, said in a recent interview that he considered the records the foundation for assessing testimony by Mr Kennedy.

Instead attorneys for the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co now say they selected a list of 16 calls and gave only those to the court. They said they chose this course independently and came under no pressure from the senator or from others on his behalf. The company's copies of the complete records were later destroyed as a matter of routine, they said.

Mr Fernandes said in the interview that he had not known the records submitted were incomplete. He said he had believed the records could indicate whether the accident happened when the senator said it did.

Mr Kennedy said yesterday that he had received a letter from the company in late January, last week while flying to America for his talks with President Carter and Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General.

Herr Schmidt sees grounds for world optimism

From Gretel Spitzer
Bonn, March 12

Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, and President Giscard d'Estaing of France will meet in Hamburg next Sunday to exchange views on their recent visits to the United States and the Middle East. The visit to Asia of Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, will also be discussed, the Chancellor told a press conference today.

Herr Schmidt confirmed that West Germany remained ready for talks, but the main point was that the two superpowers were talking to each other again.

The Chancellor reiterated that West Germany remained ready for talks, but the main point was that the two superpowers were talking to each other again.

suggest that West Germany's role should be as a mediator between the superpowers. The Chancellor rejected such an idea for Germany which was a committed partner in the Western alliance.

The Chancellor reiterated that West Germany remained ready for talks, but the main point was that the two superpowers were talking to each other again.

Dismissing rumours of a deterioration in relations between the United States and West Germany, Herr Schmidt said agreement was reached on all basic questions in Washington. It was important for the public to know that there was no disagreement between Washington and Bonn and that they would stand together in times of crisis and in preparations for the future.

Herr Schmidt renewed the demand that the Soviet Union should withdraw from Afghanistan, as a precondition for improving the international situation. Cooperation between East and West had to continue.

Iran reasserts demand for return of Shah and fortune

Tehran, March 12.—The extradition of the deposed Shah and the return of his wealth to Iran remain the conditions for the release of the American hostages held at their embassy here.

Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti told a press conference that he had received a letter from the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Council, of which he is secretary.

Ayatollah Beheshti said the conditions remained the same as those set by the students who have been holding the hostages since November 4.

His uncompromising statement came a day after the suspension of a United Nations Commission visit, on which the United States had pinned hopes of an early release of the hostages.

Diplomats seen by the Commission members met the three United States diplomats being held in the Iranian Foreign Ministry, a United Nations spokesman disclosed today.

This was the first official word that they had seen any of the Americans held in Tehran during their 17-day stay there.

Profiles of members of Salisbury's next Government

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, March 12

Both the white members of Mr Mugabe's Cabinet were born in Britain and have farming backgrounds.

Mr David Smith was born in Argyleshire in 1922 and came to Rhodesia as a farm assistant in 1946. He later set up a highly successful farming partnership in the Mazoe Valley and was appointed to a number of agricultural committees. He was Minister of Agriculture between 1968 and 1976, after which he became Minister of Finance. He was regarded as one of the most capable administrators in the party and was one of the few members of the party to remain in the country during the war. He was in detention for most of that time and was only released after the arrival of Lord Soames. He is a fiery orator and has a reputation for impulsiveness.

Mr Simbi Mubako, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, was the first editor of *Moto*, a Roman Catholic newspaper whose offices in Gwelo were destroyed by a bomb last month. He studied law in Lesotho and Canada and later taught law in Southampton.

Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, Minister of State in Mr Mugabe's office, is probably the most capable administrator in the party and was one of the few members of the party to remain in the country during the war. He was in detention for most of that time and was only released after the arrival of Lord Soames. He is a fiery orator and has a reputation for impulsiveness.

Mr Edgar Tekere, the Minister of Manpower, Planning and Development, is the party's Secretary-General. He was one of the few members of the party to remain in the country during the war. He was in detention for most of that time and was only released after the arrival of Lord Soames. He is a fiery orator and has a reputation for impulsiveness.

Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Finance, was one of only four members of the party to remain in the country during the war. He was in detention for most of that time and was only released after the arrival of Lord Soames. He is a fiery orator and has a reputation for impulsiveness.

Mr Ernest Kadungure, Minister of Transport and Power, is a former guerrilla fighter and was in the first group of guerrillas that entered north-eastern Rhodesia in 1971.

Mr Edmond Zvobgo, Minister of Local Government and Housing, was the party's spokesman during the Lancaster House conference. He studied and worked in the United States and later joined Bishop Muzorewa's African National Council but left to rejoin Zanu. His wife, Mrs Sydney Sekeramayi, Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, was educated in Czechoslovakia and Sweden and is a doctor.

Mr Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Information and Tourism, is the only Zanu minister who is not a member of the party's central committee. That is due to his involvement in the Frelimo spin-off movement during the 1970s. However, his flirtation with that group was brief and he is now a loyal Mugabe supporter.

Dr Dzimala Mutumbuka, Minister of Education, was educated in Rhodesia, Zambia, Ireland and Britain. He was responsible for providing schooling for thousands of refugee children in Mozambique.

Oarsmen are against boycotting Moscow

By Jim Railton

Candidates for the British Olympic rowing team want to go to Moscow. They have sent a strongly worded statement to the Amateur Rowing Association (ARA) executive committee asking them to take a firm line and step down from the fence.

The statement, signed by more than 40 Olympic hopefuls, tells the ARA to support the British Olympic Committee and send a team to Moscow.

"We have given thorough consideration to the political situation which gives rise to the Government wish to boycott the Olympic Games," the statement says. "We well understand that there are broad issues involved beyond the wish of individuals to participate in the Games. However we feel strongly that if selected we would wish to represent Great Britain in the Olympic Games. We believe too that the ARA should support the British Olympic Committee in its aim to send a British team to Moscow and should agree to the inclusion of oarsmen in that team."

Signatories are said to include Baillieu and Clark, medal hopes in the double sculls; the London Coxless four; the men's and women's eights; Hugh Matheson, single sculls, and most, if not all, the 1980 British Olympic team designated. The ARA issued a statement after an executive and council meeting just over a week ago. It is apparent that the candidates for the British team feel greatly disappointed that they were not consulted beforehand.

Some oarsmen also resent being used as political pawns. The ARA recommended that if no international solution had been found by early May, a free vote should be taken in the House of Commons. If the House of Commons favoured a boycott of the Moscow Olympics, the national Olympic committee of the ARA should then be guided by the result of that vote.

Colin Moynihan, an Oxford Blue and presently coxswain to the British Olympic eight designated said yesterday: "We are horrified by the ARA statement. We wish to make it clear we want to participate in the Moscow Olympic regatta."

Games favoured by athletes in Australia

Canberra, March 12.—Australia's athletes appear certain to vote against boycotting the Olympic Games in Moscow, despite the policy and wishes of the government and of Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister.

The final decision will not be made until the Australian Olympic Federation meets on April 19 in Melbourne, the host city for the 1980 Olympics, but there is a rising groundswell against a boycott. In Melbourne yesterday, 13 leading candidates for the Australian Olympic team declared their strong opposition to any boycott and said they would not participate in any alternative games or events.

This is a blow to the federal government and its Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Robert Fikorsky, who is on a tour of the United States and Europe to drum up support for alternative sites for the games. He is offering to stage hockey in Perth, Western Australia, and shooting in Melbourne.

Lord Carrington in Romania

Bucharest, March 12.—Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, arrived in Bucharest tonight to enlist Romanian support for the European Community's Afghanistan peace plan.

The Afghan crisis was expected to top the agenda at his two days of talks with President Ceausescu and Mr Stefan Andrei, the Foreign Minister.

It is the first visit by a British cabinet minister to Eastern Europe since Mrs Thatcher's Government came to power last May.—Reuter.

Mr Mugabe wants to delay independence

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, March 12

Paradoxical though it may seem—bearing in mind the years that Zimbabwe black nationalists fought for independence—Mr Robert Mugabe's government-in-waiting is trying now to delay the day it will finally take the reins of power from Britain.

Lord Soames, the Governor, and his Administration had hoped they could decently leave Salisbury around the end of March and be back in London in time for Easter. That is still officially their intention. However, Mr Mugabe has asked Lord Soames at least some of his advisers to stay a month longer.

The new Government wants independence to take place on April 23, which is known as "Chimurenga Day," the day of the armed struggle. April 28 is not only of symbolic importance to the Zanu (PF) Party but, more practically, the incoming Government wants to avoid having independence close to but not on that date to prevent there being two public holidays around the same time.

The final date for independence will be for Mr Mugabe and Lord Soames to decide, but the British still want to be away by mid-April. However, they have made it clear that while they are not prepared to stay on indefinitely they will do everything in their power to effect a smooth transition.

Meanwhile the role being played by Lord Soames and his staff has undergone a metamorphosis. Until just over a week ago they were trying to maintain a ceasefire, organising an election and run the country. Now the election is over, Rhodesians have taken over policing the ceasefire and day-to-day running of the country is progressively being handed back to the ZANU.

Although Lord Soames still remains full legislative and executive powers—and will do so until independence—he has made it clear that he will act in consultation with Mr Mugabe. Relations between the two men are cordial to the point of developing into a friendship—which is remarkable not only

because of the politics that exist between them but also because of the squabbles that took place in the election campaign. It was largely because of Lord Soames' influence that Mr Mugabe decided to accept the offer of two prominent European businessmen, David Smith and Norman Harcourt, to buy the white-owned Rhodesian Press. The Rhodesian Press was a former Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, who was a member of the Rhodesian Government. Mr Mugabe had earlier threatened that the whites should be expelled from the country. The Rhodesian Press was a former Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, who was a member of the Rhodesian Government. Mr Mugabe had earlier threatened that the whites should be expelled from the country.

The British are turning attention to the sort of independence that can be given to Rhodesia. In the first instance this is in the military help—another bearing in mind that Zanu guerrillas had obtained most of their assistance from East Africa. Major-General Ken (designated) of the Ministry of Defence, is in Salisbury for London and will discuss the country's future with Mr Mugabe.

Initially British help to concentrate on some guerrillas have been in Rhodesia. Further assistance in the form of a broadcasting network. Members of British Development are also in Rhodesia and a further visit is soon to examine the progress of the programme. And a team is to arrive soon to improve the broadcasting network.

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Rhodesia opens gates to its barbed-wire villages

From Our Own Correspondent

One of the first signs that Rhodesia's seven-year bush war is virtually over and that a new Government is about to take over the running of the country, became apparent today with the announcement that the gates of all protected villages (PVs) are to be left open forthwith.

PVs, or "keeps" as they were generally referred to by Africans, were among the most disliked symbols of previous white administrations. The villages were based on a concept developed by the British during the Malaya emergency and copied by the Americans in Vietnam and the Portuguese in Mozambique. Their aim was to isolate guerrillas by herding large sections of the rural population into villages which were surrounded by barbed wire fences and protected by armed guards.

The PV policy began in the mid-1970s and by September 1978 there were around 750,000 people living in about 250 PVs, most of them situated in the north and east of the country. The "internal" security of the Government, set up after the March 3, 1978 agreement, opened up a number of PVs in the north-east but this experiment was not pursued because

of the continuing war, there are still believed more than 500,000 people in PVs.

Although PVs did not always have a protection from the outside world, they were seriously disrupted daily lives. Food and many other necessities were often brought in by truck or by plane. The condition of the villages was extremely bad.

The incoming Government has committed itself to the PV policy. It has it would lift the curfew which had been imposed on the PVs. The aim was to isolate guerrillas by herding large sections of the rural population into villages which were surrounded by barbed wire fences and protected by armed guards.

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Promise of help for poor

Addis Ababa, March 12.—Mr Enos Nkala, who will be Minister of Finance in Mr Mugabe's Cabinet, today promised to divert wealth to the poor in a radical realignment of the Rhodesian economy.

Mr Nkala, who is here for an Organisation of African Unity conference, said: "There has been economic discrimination. Now there must be discrimination in favour of the poor and against the rich."

He added: "Now that the people have liberated themselves by way of war and the vote they must receive their share of the wealth."

He said that one of his first actions would be to set up a "People's Bank" to help the poor. He aims to prepare a budget for the end of June.

The ordinary people of Rhodesia must feel in the next few weeks that the Government is on their side and that Mr Mugabe's Government is for the people.

Mr Nkala said: "I want to restructure the economy and medical care to be free although there will be a charge for the services of the doctors who wanted to pay.—Reuter.

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World's condemnation of Israeli Settlement Policy on the Occupied Arab Territories

Full text of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 446 adopted unanimously by the fifteen members of the council on 1st March, 1980.

The Security Council

Taking note of the reports of the commission of the Security Council established under resolution 446 (1979) to examine the situation relating to the settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, contained in documents S/13450 and corr. 1 and S/13679.

Taking note also of letters from the permanent representative of Jordan (S/13801) and the permanent representative of Morocco, chairman of the Islamic Group (S/13802),

Strongly deploring the refusal by Israel to co-operate with the commission and regretting its formal rejection of resolutions 446 (1979) and 452 (1979).

Affirming once more that the fourth Geneva convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war of 12 August, 1949, is applicable to the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

Deploping the decision of the Government of Israel to officially support Israeli settlement in the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967.

Deeply concerned over the practices of the Israeli authorities in implementing that settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and its consequences for the local Arab and Palestinian population.

Taking into account the need to consider measures for the impartial protection of private and public land and property, and water resources.

Bearing in mind the specific status of Jerusalem and, in particular, the need for protection and preservation of the unique spiritual and religious dimension of the holy places in the city.

Drawing attention to the grave consequences which the settlement policy is bound to have on any attempt to reach a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Recalling pertinent Security Council resolutions, specifically resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June, 1967, 252 (1968) of 21 May, 1968, 267 (1969) of 3 July, 1969, 271 (1969) of 15 September, 1969, and 298 (1971) of 25 September, 1971, as well as the consensus statement made by the President of the Security Council on 11 November, 1976.

Having invited Mr Fahd Qawasmeh, Mayor of Al-Khail, to visit the occupied territory, to supply it with information pursuant to rule 39 of provisional rules of procedure.

1. Commends the work done by the commission in preparing the report contained in document S/13679.

2. Accepts the conclusions and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report of the commission.

3. Calls upon all parties, particularly the Government of Israel, to co-operate with the commission.

4. Strongly deploring the decision of Israel to prohibit the free travel of Mayor Fahd Qawasmeh in order to appear before the Council, and requests Israel to permit his free travel to the United Nations headquarters for that purpose.

5. Determines that all measures taken by Israel to change the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure or status of the Palestinian and other Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, or any part thereof, have no legal validity and that Israel's policies and practices of acquiring and transferring land, new immigrants in those territories constitute a flagrant violation of the fourth Geneva convention relative to the protection of civilian persons in time of war and also constitute a serious obstruction to achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

6. Strongly deploring the continuation and persistence of Israel in pursuing those policies and practices and calls upon the government and people of Israel to rescind those measures, to dismantle the existing settlements and to refrain from any further action in the occupied territories, construction and planning of settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem.

7. Calls upon all states not to provide Israel, with any assistance to be used specifically in connection with settlements in the occupied territories.

8. Requests the commission to continue to examine the situation relating to the settlements in the Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, to investigate the reported serious depletion of natural resources, particularly the implementation of the restrictions under occupation, and to keep under close scrutiny the implementation of the present resolution.

9. Requests the commission to report to the Security Council before September 1st, 1980, and decides to convene at the earliest possible date thereafter in order to consider the report and the full implementation of the present resolution.

This advertisement has been issued by the League of Arab States Office.

OVERSEAS

New Minister expected to try taking control at autonomy negotiations

By Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 12

What the country needs is not so much a new sign Minister as a new sign policy. This will not originate in the present Administration.

With that harsh judgment, English language Jerusalem yesterday greeted the appointment of Mr. Yitzhak Amir, who takes up his new post at a moment when Israel's more isolated in world news than at any period since right-wing Government of Menachem Begin took over in 1977.

This isolation was dramatically emphasized this month by unanimous United Nations Security Council vote demanding the dismantling of all Jewish settlements on Arab land.

Though President Carter recently retracted support for resolution, America remains poised to the building of elements. Israel, for its part, regards the attack as the form of defeat, and ended yesterday by sending more than 800 Jewish settlers to the West Bank.

Mr. Amir, a strong supporter of the right of Jews to live anywhere in the Biblical land of Israel, is a close ally of Mr. Begin's. He is expected to do nothing to restrain Israel's settlement policy.

Some also believe that he will be unlikely to find any way to lead it more successfully outside world.

Senior members of the Foreign Ministry maintain that the first and most important task for Mr. Amir is to counter growing support for the Palestinian cause among British, West Germany, Ireland.

Within a few hours of taking office Mr. Amir announced that he would take up the seat of the Israeli Prime Minister's Committee on the Palestinian Question. It was spurred by his predecessor.

Commentators predict that he will soon try to wrest much of the responsibility for conducting the negotiations away from Israel's present chief

negotiator, Dr. Joseph Burg, the Interior Minister.

Outlining his priorities, Mr. Amir said this week: "We must now pursue the issues agreed upon by the majority of the people: not to return to the borders of 1967; to oppose the establishment of a Palestinian state; and to preserve an undivided Jerusalem."

Political associates say that he will vigorously oppose the softening of the Israeli stand on autonomy now being demanded by Egypt and encouraged by America.

Although the Egyptian Government has refrained from official comment on the appointment, there have been strong hints that President Sadat is deeply disappointed that such a hard-line Israeli should have become Foreign Minister at this delicate stage of the peace process.

At the same time, the Egyptian leader has been insisting that May 26 is a "deadline" rather than a "target date" for concluding the autonomy talks.

The clear implication of his remarks is that the talks will not be permitted to continue in their present form beyond then, and that the character of normalization between the two states will change if no agreement is reached.

Elsewhere, Mr. Amir's other pressing problems all seem to stem from mounting international criticism of Israel's refusal to give ground on the Palestinian issue, and its expansionist policy in territory seized during the 1967 war.

Among other things, the attitude seems likely to frustrate attempts for a diplomatic rapprochement with black Africa which Israel had hoped might result from the peace treaty with Egypt.

Nuclear allegations: Israel was prepared to use nuclear bombs at the time of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, according to an article in the West German magazine Stern.

Golka Meir, Israeli Prime Minister, said the time ordered the highest level of nuclear security. Bombs were taken out of underground bunkers in the Negev Desert and loaded into modified Phantom and Kfir aircraft, it added. Israel has always denied it has nuclear weapons. —Reuter.

Lebanese party leader escapes fatal blast

By Robert Fisk
Beirut, March 12

President Camille Chamoun of Lebanon has so many political enemies that not in Beirut's peripatetic press likely to suggest who tried to kill him today.

Mr. Chamoun, who is leader of the National Liberal Party, one of Lebanon's oldest political parties, was only attacked when a remote-controlled bomb exploded next to a car in eastern Beirut this morning, killing his driver and seriously wounding three bodyguards.

Mr. Chamoun, who delights in giving his friends that an 80-year-old politician can remain lively, emerged from the hospital 30 minutes after admission to be greeted by party colleagues with the enthusiasm usually accorded a victorious racing driver.

With a broad grin, he told reporters that he always liked to keep fit. "You see," he said, "very Wednesday I take exercise by walking in the mountains. I did not expect this explosion in the explosion—and now I am back to fight crime and minerals."

The main concern of the PLO, however, is against the PLO's presence in Lebanon. The PLO, however, is against the PLO's presence in Lebanon. The PLO, however, is against the PLO's presence in Lebanon.

Mr. Chamoun seems to have recovered from the explosion and is now in the PLO's custody. The PLO, however, is against the PLO's presence in Lebanon. The PLO, however, is against the PLO's presence in Lebanon.

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Martin Buser, of Switzerland, and one of his dogs rest during a break in the 1,150-mile Anchorage to Nome dogsled race in Alaska.

Indian anger at acquittal in rape case

By Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, March 12

A Supreme Court judgment acquitting two policemen charged with rape has outraged sections of Indian society and divided jurists.

What has come to be known as the "Mathura case" arose out of the arrest of a 15-year-old girl by the name of Mathura who was kept in police custody in Maharashtra and allegedly raped by a chief constable and a policeman.

The sessions court acquitted the officers but the High Court reversed this decision. Now the Supreme Court has upheld the sessions court decision to acquit.

The Supreme Court judgment said that Mathura went with the constables to the lavatory where they had sexual intercourse with her. The court found that the alleged intercourse was "a peaceful affair" and that she followed the constables "meekly".

There have been demonstrations and processions in the country to change the law. The other day, nearly 300 women paraded through the streets of Delhi to protest against the "exploitation of women" and criticized the Supreme Court judgment.

Jurists are also divided on the question of procedure and law involved in the case. Recently, a group of law professors wrote an open letter to the Chief Justice of India to have the case reconsidered by a full bench.

However, a letter in a Supreme Court journal attacked them for criticizing the Supreme Court judgment. Those who defend the Supreme Court ruling point out that all the courts found there was no reliable evidence to show the girl was under fear of death or pain.

The Chief Justice in a speech to the Indian Law Institute has welcomed the criticism of the Supreme Court judgment, though he admitted it put him in a dilemma.

Under the existing law, it is the duty of the prosecution to prove beyond doubt that the accused is guilty. Until he is proved guilty, law presumes that he is innocent.

sources, General Iqbal in the discussions by Pakistan's military rulers did not, however, urge acceptance of the American offer of aid, but rather spoke against Pakistan getting involved with the Afghan insurgents and thus antagonising the Soviet Union. So he does not seem to "fit" the role of chief conspirator.

President Zia's promise to announce a new cabinet in the next 10 days, an obvious bid for a somewhat broader base in the country after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, could reveal how the "constellation" of top military figures around him really stands.

Meanwhile the Lahore High Court has admitted for hearing the writ petition challenging the one-year's rigorous imprisonment now being served in Rawalpindi jail by Mr. Salamat Ali, a prominent journalist and Pakistan correspondent for the Far Eastern Economic Review.

He was sentenced last November by a one-man military tribunal for a critical article last autumn on Baluchistan. Habeas Corpus writ: Official denials of Army unrest have not impressed the Pakistani community in London and yesterday reports from Pakistan said that the wife of one of the generals arrested in the reported coup had presented a writ of habeas corpus seeking to force the authorities to declare his whereabouts (David Watts writes).

The wife of Major-General Tajmal Hussain Malik presented the writ at a Lahore court. Her husband is said to have been the coup leader.

Better use of forests plea

By Charles Harrison
Nairobi, March 12

Recommendations calling for better information on the world's tropical forests, and for programmes to help give people a better understanding of the value of forests, were adopted by a meeting of 50 experts, called by the United Nations Environment Programme (Unep), which has just ended.

Dr. Mustafa Tolba, the executive director of Unep, said this was one of a series of meetings called because of worldwide concern about the degradation and rapid disappearance of woodlands and tropical forests.

A big challenge for the 1980s was to develop tropical forests intelligently. The abundance and diversity of materials to be derived from tropical forests offered exciting prospects.

Recommendations from the experts' meeting go to the annual Unep governing council, to be held here next month.

Culture flourishes far from constraints of big centres
Soviet provinces aglow with creative sparks in the arts

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 12

The triumph of the Rustaveli theatre company of Georgia at the Edinburgh Festival and more recently in London came as a surprise to many in Britain who knew nothing of the vitality and vigour of the theatre in this small Soviet republic.

But for Georgians, Shakespeare is as much a part of their national tradition as it is for audiences in Stratford-on-Avon. The Rustaveli production of *Richard III* established the reputation of Ramaz Chikhradze, the actor, and Robert Sturua, the director, in the West.

Now a second Georgian theatre company has staged another Shakespeare play which Soviet critics have hailed as an outstanding event in the republic's cultural life. *Coriolanus* at the Kote Mardkhashvili theatre, directed by Giorgi Lordkipanidze, opened this week in Tbilisi, and is said to be a successful attempt to interpret Shakespeare in the language of modern stagecraft.

There are 25 theatres in the mountainous transcaucasian republic, and each includes Shakespeare in its repertoire. Georgia has also won a reputation for innovation in stage design and art, and Georgian designers dominated an exhibition of theatre art in Moscow last year.

But Georgia is not the only outlying province where theatre and the arts in general are flourishing. Though the Bolshoi ballet in Moscow and the Kirov in Leningrad are deservedly famous, and the cities of the Caucasus have a world reputation, much of the initiative in the arts has moved to the provinces.

Cultural life in Estonia, Armenia, the Ukraine and even Siberia is in many respects more dynamic and innovative than in Moscow and Leningrad, the traditional centres. Plays, novels and paintings are being produced there whose political daring would never be accepted in the capital.

A Soviet literary journal, for example, recently praised the work of Jan Toomaj, a young Estonian director, and con-

trasted his lively work with what it called the stale productions in Moscow.

Toomaj has adapted for the stage a number of novels on the quasi-religious theme of the struggle of good and evil. One recent production, *The New Devil from Inferno*, is starkly symbolic and is presented as a new morality play.

It resurrects the figure of Everyman and deals with violence and the opposition of spiritual and material values, ending with an apocalyptic scene in which the forces of disintegration triumph to the accompaniment of inhuman music on a synthesizer.

Estonia, the smallest of all the 15 Soviet republics, also has a strong musical tradition. Every five years as many as 33,000 people gather to sing national songs to an outdoor audience of up to 200,000 people. Indeed the city of Tallinn has built a special open-air amphitheatre for these festivals.

The state symphony was judged the best in the whole Soviet Union in a competition two years ago, and its former chief conductor Neeme Jarvi—who has since emigrated—won a conductor's award in Rome and was widely praised on tours in the West.

The Estonian orchestra has played works not often heard in the Soviet Union, including for the first time last autumn "Land of Hope and Glory", sung in English.

Opera flourishes in the provinces, too. The seaport of Odessa in the Ukraine still retains its cosmopolitan flavour, and its ornate late-Victorian opera house can stage productions that rival those in Vienna.

Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, on the other hand has a vast new palace of culture, whose theatres are as experimental as any in Leningrad, staging such things as rock ballets to the music of Pink Floyd.

The best Soviet museum of modern art is in Yerevan, capital of Armenia. It exhibits works that are as avant-garde even by Western standards—and it enjoys the full support of the local Communist Party leadership.

Its director has also founded a museum of children's art, where young people themselves choose the exhibits. The museums works with schools throughout Armenia and has created a strong tradition of painting and sculpture. The experiment has proved so successful that the authorities are building a theatre to be run by and for children.

Even Muslim Central Asia is seeing a revival of traditional Islamic architecture and decoration. Seminars have been held in Samarkand on oriental music, drawing performers from all over the Middle East.

Some of Russia's best known writers live in remote parts of the country. Valentin Rasputin, an influential novelist, lives in a village in far-away Siberia. Mikhail Sholokhov still lives beside the River Don that made his name famous.

There are several reasons why the arts do well in the provinces. In many cases they continue the traditions of old and proud cultures that are quite separate from the Russian tradition—in Georgia, Armenia and the Baltic republics, for example.

People here support the arts partly out of nationalist and linguistic sentiment.

The drawback is that outstanding provincial artists are often ignored in the capital, which gets the pick of foreign engagements and recognition. Neeme Jarvi emigrated last year because he was frustrated that Estonia was so frequently overlooked both at home and abroad.

Second, the arts are far less politicized outside Moscow. Ideology still permeates all artistic production, but there is more freedom for quiet experiment outside the political glare of Moscow and Leningrad.

Finally it is often a matter of local pride to make money available for local film studios, opera and theatre companies and concert halls.

In such a big country provincial towns by Moscow companies are rather limited. But this does not mean that the provinces, as in many countries, are starved of culture. There is plenty at home.

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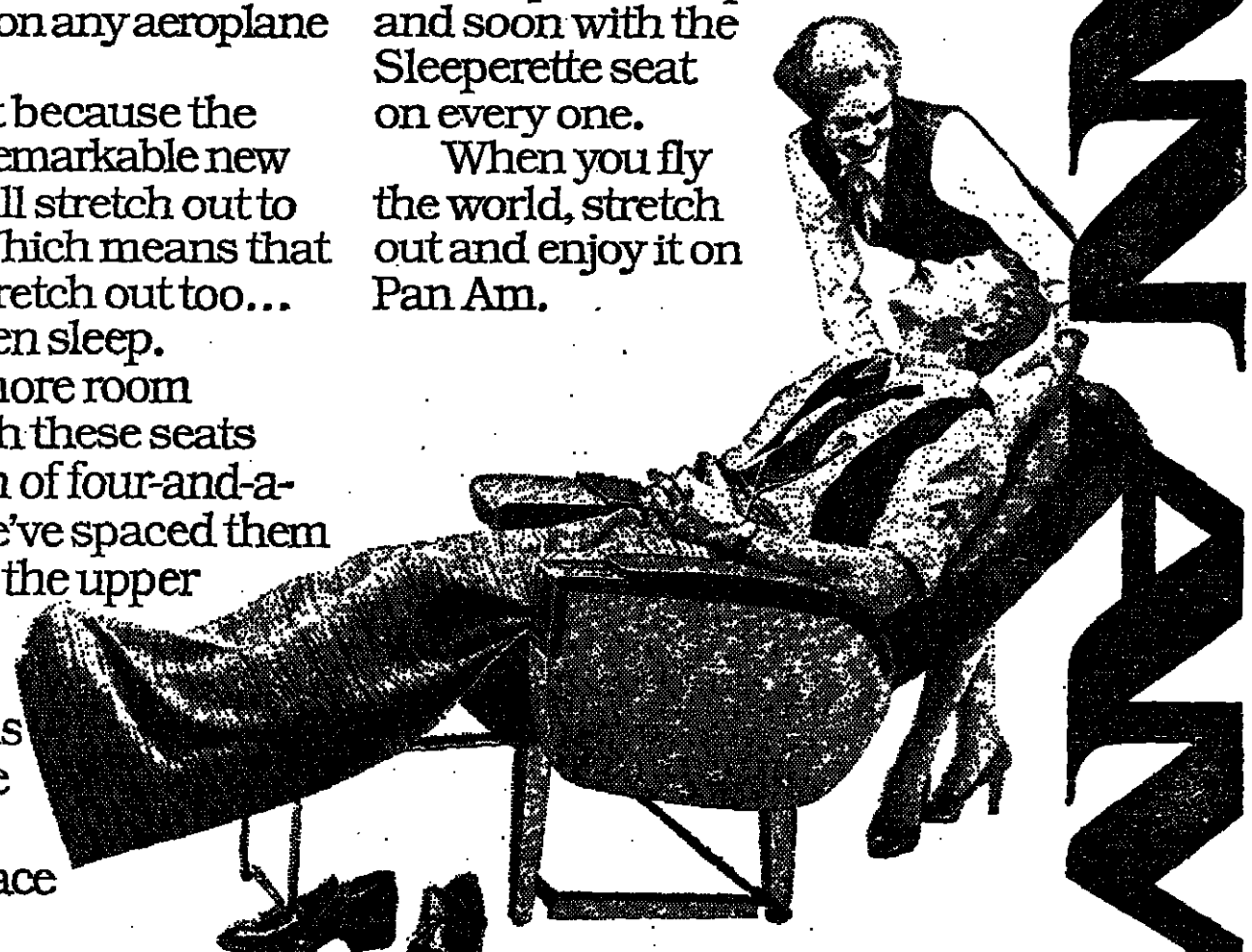
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OVERSEAS

World View

Arrigo Levi

A meaning of détente which Moscow must learn to accept

Anyway, what is détente? "Détente was and still is real, provided one is not under the illusion that it had or could have entered the constant basic pattern of East-West confrontation which continues unabated. Détente always was and still is nothing else but the latest form of that same confrontation developed in the early 70s after the Soviet Union agreed to exclude war and threats of war in its relations with the USA and Western Europe. . . . Détente, in terms of Soviet policy, was, and, as long as it will last, always will be a device for the "peaceful" expansion of communism and Soviet influence throughout the world."

I have heard and read many definitions of détente. The one I have just quoted is in my view one of the best. Its author, Professor A. Sitomras, is a Soviet citizen who has now settled in Britain, where he is a research fellow at the University of Bradford. He has written to me to comment on a few thoughts of mine on hawks and doves.

I wonder: would Mr Carter have been less shocked by Soviet behaviour in Afghanistan, and perhaps quicker in reacting to preceding "peaceful" expansionist actions by Russia, if he had been aware of the complex meaning of détente, as indicated by Professor Sitomras's definition?

A lot of the present debate on détente (is it divisible or indivisible? How many more shocks can it survive? Can the West have real détente with a superpower bent on finding compensation abroad for its domestic failures? Can détente develop unless the Russians repudiate the "theory of international solidarity"? It turns on problems of definition.

If one assumes that détente means full cooperation between the superpowers, one is bound to be always disappointed. There are but always be in détente, as Mr Brzezinski has said, "competitive aspects" as well as "cooperative aspects": the "indivisibility" of détente, in my view, does not mean the disappearance of competitiveness, but only that one must not challenge by the other side's fundamental interests.

In this sense the Afghan adventure is incompatible with détente: not only because it introduces—and I quote again Mr Brzezinski—a "highly dynamic element in a very volatile area of the world," threatening the freedom of Western access to oil resources which are vital for its own independence and survival, but

also because it enlarges the old Brezhnev doctrine of "limited sovereignty" making of it something quite different, which can embrace the world. The invasion of Czechoslovakia by claiming that "a socialist state that is in a system of other states constituting a socialist commonwealth cannot be free of the common interest of that commonwealth". In 1980 *New Times* has said that it was legitimate for the Soviet Union to give "material assistance, including military help, to Afghanistan, because by refusing to use the possibilities at their disposal the socialist countries would virtually evade the performance of their internationalist duty."

The Soviet leaders have thus given to the invasion of Afghanistan the quality of a historical precedent which can justify aggression against any country in the world. It was already dangerous to be a member of the socialist camp. Now it is not even safe to be friendly with the Soviet Union.

But this means that for détente to be possible (even in the limited sense as defined by Professor Sitomras), the West must not only obtain the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, but the recognition by the Soviet Union (as demanded, among others, by Signor Berlinguer) that "internationalist duty" cannot be performed through the use of force and aggression in what is indeed a very "volatile" world, all of it. This, by the way, may be even more difficult to obtain than the withdrawal of troops.

But it once looked just as unthinkable that one day the Russians would recognize the necessity of peaceful coexistence with Europe and America in order to prevent nuclear war. And yet they did, after Stalin's death when they became aware of the horrors of the alternative course, and when they were in great need of Western cooperation, just as they are now, in order to achieve their dream of prosperity.

New life can be breathed into détente, but only, I believe, if the Soviet Union comes to accept that détente does allow by the other side's fundamental interests.

Just as it allows the peaceful expansion ("Détente is a forward policy", according to the original Sonnenfeldt doctrine), democracy in the world (The ghost haunting the world today is that of democracy, not that of communism.)

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New Thai leader puts civilians in key posts

From Neil Kelly

Bangkok, March 12

General Prem Tinsulanonda, the new Prime Minister of Thailand, today disowned his public image as a military man to the core by appointing civilians to most of the important posts in his first government.

Those close to him are not surprised for while recognizing his lifelong devotion to the Army they say he is no ordinary brassard but an imaginative man keen to explore new and unusual ideas.

His Government is expected to adopt tougher policies than its predecessor towards Indo-Chinese refugees.

General Prem said there would be no change in Thailand's open-door policy towards refugees, but Dr Thanat Khoman, one of the new Deputy Prime Ministers in charge of foreign affairs, is opposed to the open-door policy.

For two years he has been urging the previous government to reduce the number of refugees in Thailand by "harsh and more drastic measures" if necessary.

He has contended publicly that Thailand is paying for the refugees' food, shelter and medical care—whereas in fact those costs are met by international contributions to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Dr Thanat, an MP in the elected Lower House, and leader of the Democrat Party, was Foreign Minister for a time during the military dictatorship headed by Field Marshal Thanom Kittikachorn from 1963 to 1973.

He has never been enthusiastic about Thailand's increasingly

close relations with China and is opposed to a formal alliance, military or otherwise, between the two countries.

General Prem appears equally wary of Chinese intentions and much of the military establishment would like to see less attention given to ties with Peking.

General Prem, who is also Defence Minister, appointed civilians to all the prime posts. Mr Boonchu Rojanastien is the man who, as Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, can make or break the new government.

As an effective Finance Minister in an earlier government, and President of the Bangkok Bank which he has made the largest bank in South-East Asia he has a reputation for financial wizardry.

His problems now are Thailand's annual inflation rate approaching 20 per cent, growing unemployment, worsening balance of payments and the worst drought in a decade, threatening rise and other agricultural exports which are the lifeblood of the nation.

General Prem selected 17 members of the Lower House for Cabinet posts. There were no members of the previous government, a situation which contributed to its downfall.

General Prem made his reputation as a military commander, fighting Thai communist insurgents between 1974 and 1979 in north-eastern Thailand, the poorest region, where the insurgency was then growing alarmingly.

Within a few months General Prem put the insurgents into a retreat which they have never reversed.

Hongkong and communist police to work together

From Richard Hughes

Hongkong, March 12

Hongkong and Chinese police have joined in a drive against crime on both sides of the border.

Information on the movement of suspected criminals between Hongkong and Canton in particular will be exchanged through Communist Party representatives at the Hongkong branch of the New China news agency or on important matters through diplomatic channels.

Full details of the offences, records and evidence against people arrested on one side of the border, which might assist

police on the other side, will also be exchanged.

The new cooperation has already struck successfully at the operation of several syndicates engaged in illegal gambling. It is also considered likely that Hongkong will stop accepting as residents illegal entrants who have managed to evade the reinforced border and sea guards to reach families and relatives in Hongkong.

That intelligence has been granted since Hongkong's stern decision in 1974 to cease being a sanctuary for escapees from the mainland and to "repatriate" forcibly all those detained at the border.

In the good old days they had ways of telling you whether your meat was good or bad

The Times Cook



Shona Crawford Poole

Early cookery books commonly contained repellently explicit instructions on how to choose good meat and ways to tell if it is less than fresh, diseased, or worse. How necessary this knowledge must once have been, and how much we take for granted now that meat is fresh and safe, was brought home to me by the Butchers of London exhibition.

It is the pictures of livestock being driven through the city's streets, markets at Rastebach, Newgate Shambles and Smithfield, and of the grazing fields at Islington where drovers rested their herds before bringing them into town that emphasize most vividly the merits of refrigeration. What can urban life have been like when a million cattle were driven through the streets of London in a year as they were in the mid-19th century? What price public health when beasts were slaughtered in the gutters?

The exhibition opened this week at the Museum of London, London Wall, EC2, and runs until April 13. Documents and plates belonging to the Butchers Company are displayed, together with various assorted items connected with the provision of meat to Londoners from the 12th century to the present day.

Stews of this modest show are the humane killer's weighty predecessor, the peacock, and a letter written by the Earl of Manchester in 1664 to the Lord Mayor. In it he requests that the Butchers Company be asked to resume deliveries of offal from the markets of Newgate and Eastcheap for feeding the King's bulls and bears then lodged at Southwark. What, one wonders, had been sustaining the bulls and bears in the meantime?

Back to the present day, and spring lamb is the best of the seasonal delicacies in Smithfield now. It is so young, and juicy and tender that it can be served as rare as fillet steak. Wrap it in puff pastry for a festive meal. Grill thick slices from the leg with herbs and lemon juice. Roast a shoulder slowly with slivers of garlic tucked into the meat.

Loin of lamb in puff pastry
Serves four to six
900g (2lbs) boned loin of lamb
55g (2oz) butter
225g (8oz) onions, chopped
110g (4oz) lamb's liver, roughly chopped
30g (1oz) hazelnuts, chopped
1 teaspoon dried tarragon, or 1 sprig fresh when available
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
450g (1lb) packed frozen puff pastry, thawed
1 egg yolk

Ask the butcher to bone a loin of lamb. A piece weighing about 1.25kg (2½lb) will weigh about 900g (2lb) when boned and trimmed. Trim away most of the fat on the outside of joint to leave a layer which is wafer thin. Roll the meat into a sausage shape and tie it in one or two places with string.

Spread half the butter on the lamb and part-roast it in a preheated hot oven (230°C/450°F, gas mark 8) for 30 minutes. This is long enough for meat which will be pink inside at the completion of cooking. Add another five or so minutes for medium-done, and 15 minutes for well-done. Transfer the lamb to a plate to cool.

Melt the remaining butter in a pan and fry the onions until they are soft but not coloured. Add the liver and fry it very briefly just to firm it. Cool the mixture, then mince or chop it very finely. Stir in

the chopped hazelnuts and tarragon and season the mixture to taste with salt and pepper.

Roll the pastry very thinly on a floured surface. Spoon half the onion mixture on to the pastry as a base for the meat. Remove the string, lay the lamb on it and top with the remaining stuffing.

Dump the edges of the pastry with water and wrap it over the meat in a parcel, joining the long sides on top of the meat in a pinched-up fold, and the ends in the same way. Resist the temptation to overlap the pastry in folds which would cook unevenly, and trim off the excess.

Cut one or two small slits in the pastry top, to let out steam, and brush it with egg yolk. Place the meat on a greased baking sheet and bake it in a preheated moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for 30 to 35 minutes, or until the pastry is golden and crisp. Serve in thick slices, with bitter orange or redcurrant jelly.

Lamb steaks cut from the leg make a substantial special occasion grill. The slices should be between 1.25cm and 2cm (½ inch to ¾ inch) thick and will have a small piece of bone in the centre. To stop them from curling while cooking, insert two skewers in an X-shape horizontally through each slice.

Grilled lamb steaks
Serves four
4 legs of lamb steaks
1 clove garlic, crushed
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
Fresh or dried herbs to taste: thyme, marjoram, tarragon, rosemary
3 tablespoons olive oil
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

Pat the steaks dry and arrange them on a plate. Combine all the other ingredients for the marinade and pour it over the steaks. Marinate the steaks for an hour or two at room temperature, turning them once.

Skewer the steaks to keep them flat during cooking, and grill them on a preheated very hot grill for about six minutes on each side. Baste the meat with the marinade during cooking, and make sure the meat is heat-sealed on both sides before lowering the heat if it is cooking too quickly.

Chump chops and lamb cutlets are also suitable for this recipe. Serve grilled lamb steaks with baked potatoes and plenty of crisp green salad.

Rest the meat in the oven with the heat turned off and the door half open for about 10 minutes before carving.

While the meat is resting, make the gravy. Skim all the fat from the juices in the roasting tin, and add the chicken stock. Stir to dissolve the crusty bits from the tin, and add the tarragon, red currant jelly and seasonings. For thin gravy, simply bring to the boil, strain and serve. For thicker gravy blend the cornflour with a little water and stir into the liquid. Bring to the boil and keep at boiling point for a minute or two before straining and serving.

Baked potatoes cooked without fat are a better accompaniment with shoulder of lamb than the traditional roast potatoes. Roasted onions and fresh carrots are sweet-tasting vegetables which go well with spring lamb.

Easter eggs
Making and decorating Easter eggs will be the subject of this column in two weeks time. Flexible plastic Easter egg moulds with the traditional crazy paying patterns are available by post in three sizes (3½, 4½ and 6½ inches high) at 50p each from Mary Ford Cake Artistry Centre, 28-30 Southbourne Grove, Bournemouth (plus postage and packing 45p on any order).

Metal moulds are sold by Divertimenti, 68-70 Marylebone Lane, London, W1M 5FF, and by Elizabeth David, 46 Bourne Street, London SW1. Both these shops sell by mail order.

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Sheep being driven down Fere Street, London, EC2 with St Giles Cripplegate in the background. Wash drawing by T. H. Shepherd c 1830.

When divorce can make fathers strangers to their children

Motherhood, we are constantly told, has been devalued. But is it not fatherhood that has gone by the board? One million mothers are rarely called on to decide the fate of children and perhaps we should be grateful. Because when they are they do so with such devastating dotiness that anyone would despair. Last year a father who had taken care of his infant son since his wife left home shortly after the birth was told to hand him back and go and do something more suitable with his life, like going out to work and earning some money. But a few weeks ago Lord Denning made a similar custody order when a father had done just that as well as looking after his daughter when his wife left home.

Men feel they cannot win. They are angry and no wonder. But these cases are mercifully few and far between. The real failure of the present system is that it offers no way for the absent parent to continue his role as father, to continue his role as father. The system, if anything, actively discourages it. All children have any rights at all in divorce is the right of the child, this is twofold because they never enforce it.

Kramer v Kramer is more likely to confuse than clarify the issue. Most divorced fathers in the United States or here do not try for sole custody unless the circumstances are bizarre. The conventional wisdom, which few fathers have the financial resources to challenge, is that children are best left with their mothers. That may be sexist, prejudiced and completely out of date in this role swapping era. But what a Pan-

da's box would be opened if every divorce involved weighing up the respective merits of two equally kind loving and worthy parents who just did not happen to get on together.

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His approaches are quite likely to be put down to harassment. The general feeling seems to be that divorced mothers and their children are better off being left alone to get on with it. Every now and then some school head stands up on his or her hind legs and says just that.

But there is far more support for the argument that joint custody and proper access arrangements are a good thing. Both the work of the Bristol family conciliation service and research at the Medical Psychiatric Unit at Cambridge suggest that the problems found among children of divorced parents are less when a good relationship with the non custodial parent is established.

Post divorce fatherhood is due for rehabilitation. Across the Atlantic Dr Spock has come out in favour of alternate custody with children moving between two homes and some state laws have incorporated the idea. Not, one might say, because of the good doctor but because they are being ravaged by an epidemic of child-snatching which many see as the inevitable harvest of divorce laws that try to do away with daddy. Those who think it could not happen here will not have seen the excellent *Man Alive* programme on the subject some weeks ago.

But already it looks as if the Law Commission will back-peddle on children when it begins its inquiry into the present state of the divorce law. It will serve the courts right if they are harked by the strain of coping with applications for joint or sole custody from increasingly militant fathers.

Many feel there is no solution, or that a court, in no place in which children find it. But the truth is that the state of the law is primitive on matters like custody and access. There is plenty that could be done to improve matters.

It seems incredible that joint custody orders—which give parents equal say in a child's education, religion and general welfare—are still the exception, not the rule. And they are virtually unheard of if the mother opposes it.

If the mother has sole custody the divorced father cannot demand to know how his child is doing at school—or even where he is at school. In a real sense divorce makes fathers strangers to their children. The divorced man who wishes to be active in their care and upbringing is regarded with suspicion, as a freak, and more often than not a downright nuisance.

Maggie Drummond

ENTERTAINMENTS

Opera and Ballet

COVENT GARDEN C. 8.30 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE C. 8.00 1980
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Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

THEATRE

NATIONAL THEATRE C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

OLD VIC C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

THE CLUB C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

OLIVER! C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Wed. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Fri. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
Box Office: 01-594 6666

THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS C. 8.00 1980
(Sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain)
Tues. 7.30, Sat. 2.30 & 7.30: The Four Seasons/Gloria/Finlandia/Finlandia
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THE ARTS

British premiere
of ballet score
by Bernstein

The British premiere of a major work by Leonard Bernstein, *Dybbuk Variations*, is to be given on May 17 at St John's, Smith Square, by the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra conducted by James Blair. The work is a half-hour compression of the ballet score *The Dybbuk*, Bernstein's first collaboration with the choreographer Jerome Robbins since *West Side Story*. The ballet was inspired by the play of Solomon Asch recently seen on British television.

CINEMAS

RICESTON SQUARE THEATRE (100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 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4230, 4232, 4234, 4236, 4238, 4240, 4242, 4244, 4246, 4248, 4250, 4252, 4254

SPORT

Football

Wolves drop Thomas from the final party

Dave Thomas is out of the Wolverhampton Wanderers party for the League Cup final at Wembley on Saturday—and will not see the match. The regular England winger, who cost Wolves £250,000 from Everton last October, said that he could see no future for himself at Wolves.

What has gone on between me and the club is a personal matter. It is a very disappointing time in my career but I am determined to bounce back. Joining Wolves just has not worked out. I will not be at Wembley on Saturday but with the players all the best, Thomas said.

Things have not been right between John Barnwell, the manager, and Thomas for some time. The matter came to a head on Monday when Thomas was taken out of the party for the league match at Villa Park.

Mr Barnwell said: "All I am saying is that Thomas is not in the Wembley squad. I don't want to cause any ripples before the final though I might have something to say on Monday."

Wolves manager John Barnwell yesterday while their midfield player, Kenny Hibbitt, was back at Molineux. He has been having intensive treatment on his thigh muscle and Mr Barnwell said: "He will only play in the final if he is 100 per cent fit. One degree under will not be enough."

Dave Needham and Ian Bowyer were yesterday waiting to be called into Nottingham Forest's side for the final. Brian Clough, the manager, expects to have to make two changes to the line-up as Forest try to win the trophy for a third successive season. But he will not know for sure until Larry Lloyd has faced an FA disciplinary commission in Birmingham today after reaching



Thomas: "Joining Wolves just has not worked out."

20 penalty points. Bowyer looks certain to make over to Bowles, who is intelligent.

Lloyd's record suggests that he will be given at least a one-match ban and that will mean Needham playing alongside Kenny Burns at the centre of the Forest defence.

Needham hopes that Lloyd gets six weeks and I'd be disappointed if he didn't think that way. Mr Clough said before taking his party to Jersey for a break.

Both managers praised their players' commitment. In this week's warm-up game—Wolves triumphed 3-1 at Aston Villa on Monday—Forest defeated Wolverhampton Rovers 4-0. "I could not have asked for more,"

said Mr Clough, who has been angered by the attitude of certain players in recent matches.

The scoreline flattered Forest: Tottenham's centre-back Paul Miller was sent off after 36 minutes for punching Garry Birtles. Until then Forest had failed to show any form that might worry Wolves. It took them until the seventh minute to score. Burns finally opened the floodgates with two goals in the first half.

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Ice skating

Cousins left with just a toe-hold on title

From John Hennessy
Dortmund, March 12
Robin Cousins' hopes of adding the world figure skating championship to his European and Olympic titles, virtually disappeared after a fall in the short programme.

He fell near the end of his step sequence in the short programme, and Cousins was left with just a toe-hold on the title.

Cousins, however, climbed two places and the order at the top is now Hoffman, David Santee (United States), and Charles Tickner (United States).

As a result of his fall in yesterday's compulsory figures, Cousins' lead was slimmed to just a toe-hold.

The East German champion was as dependable as ever, but he seemed even less inspired than usual. This, apart from minor variations here and there, he had a general score of 5.7. Given a

programme by Cousins in the manner that he alone can achieve among modern skaters, there was a possibility of a solid

performance when Cousins came onto the ice at the end of the afternoon. Cousins believed that the combination jump was the one

trick that he had not mastered. Cousins, we recall that it did him no harm when he won the world championships in Garmisch. This time, he brought it off perfectly

in the first place. He was in the lead, and he was in the lead.

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Skiing

Miss Epple's first World Cup success

Salzburg, Austria, March 12—Miss Epple, of West Germany, won the first World Cup skiing slalom of her career in a giant slalom today.

Miss Epple, a silver medal winner at the Olympic giant slalom, had the second fastest time in the first leg and won the second leg with a combined time of 1:17.57.

She was really going for a win from the start, and she was really going for a win from the start.

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Miss Epple: overhauled Miss Pellen to win the last two individual events of the season.

her doctors said she might stop now. After having trouble remembering the gate key.

Miss Pellen, who won this year's World Cup slalom event and came fourth overall, said she still did not quite believe that Mrs Moser and Miss Nadia would win.

She kept going for several days but then lost her balance and fell on the second run in two days.

With this year's World Cup already decided some of the usual suspects were missing today, and the main interest centred on who would be around next year.

Miss Moser, whose heroic comeback this season has amazed

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Miss Moser, whose heroic comeback this season has amazed

Chelsea try to sign Viljoen

Chelsea made a late attempt to beat today's transfer deadline when they tried to sign Manchester City's former England midfielder player, Colin Viljoen, yesterday.

Viljoen is rated at £50,000. After losing the leadership of the second division when they lost 5-1 to Birmingham on Tuesday night, Chelsea's assistant manager, Bobby Gould, said: "I have faced an inquiry about Viljoen and at the moment are considering the situation. We want to sign him because his experience would help us."

The Doncaster goalkeeper, Peacock, has joined the first division club, Bolton Wanderers, in a £70,000 transfer deal. Peacock, Doncaster's longest-serving player, made his 200th league appearance for the club in Tuesday's 2-0 home defeat against Harrogate.

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Hunter left out of Northern Ireland party

The Northern Ireland captain, and defender Alan Hunter, has been dropped for the World Cup qualifying match against Israel in Tel Aviv on March 26.

Hunter has won a place in the team which is challenged for promotion to the first division, Eire, by Crystal Palace's £200,000 signing from Preston, is to return to his old club on the end of the season.

Elvis has been out of the first team for 14 months because of knee trouble.

The England cricketer, Botham, has agreed to join the fourth division club, Southampton, on a non-contract basis, which would make him eligible, if required, for the club in the T20 league.

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Marks after short programme

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2 USSR 9.52 9.20 9.16 9.04

3 USA 9.50 9.76 9.48 9.40

4 Canada 9.52 9.48 9.20 9.32

5 EG 9.68 9.28 9.12 9.20

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New Books

History on the March

The Life of Aleksandr Blok

Volume Two: The Release of Blok 1908-1921

By Avril Pyman

(Oxford £16.50)

"Terrible country! Terrible hearts!" Blok quoted Pushkin as his old friends deserted him at the height of the First World War, and the last thirteen years of his life, as told in the second and concluding volume of Avril Pyman's splendid biography, were filled with images of Russia's corruption and his own foreboding of change. Suddenly, from the balcony, I see tattered man walking along steadily, obviously not wishing anyone to see, stooping all the time towards the ground. Then, suddenly, he stretched out full length over the railing, and, as if I could see, raised the railing over the railing, drank the water, wiped his mouth, and went cautiously on. A man. Yet he loved Russia far above all other countries and never left her for long. Artist and homeland, indeed, have rarely been as inextricable and Dr Pyman, who in her first volume gave us the young poet as Hamlet, privileged and brilliant, waiting for his hour, now depicts him first as Don Juan, consumed by the "black blood" of his father, breaking hearts but rarely making enemies, then as something like the very genius of Russia's millennium, and, throughout, as the hapless vessel of his own words, which he did not always himself understand. When the revolution came he welcomed it with open arms, and attempted to define its soul.

His masterpiece *The Twelve* was written in the first starving winter that followed, and whilst he was never narrowly political, still less a Party man, "One thing one must accord the Bolsheviks and that is their quite unique ability to stamp

out custom and liquidate the individual" he was, for a visionary poet, unusually practical: it was his firm grasp of the contemporary world that led him to accept the sack of his family home apparently without protest and to work on communist revolutionary cultural projects more or less as required after 1917. It was for this that he lost his old friends in the Petersburg intelligentsia, while gaining a few new ones among the Russian people, about whose identity and goodness he worried, like most Russian intellectuals, the whole of his creative adult life. He was only 41 when he died, in the care of a young disciple and the two women he had loved with unswerving intensity from first to last: his mother, and his wife.

A spectacular and incandescent poet, a complex and inspiring mind, Blok makes an irresistible subject for biography and Dr Pyman follows his life and work so closely and with such empathy that she seems to me to offer a model of how great but unfamiliar foreign poets should be presented to the English reader. I do not read Russian, so cannot say more for her translations than that they generally read very well, sometimes memorably, in English and fit perfectly into her concept of Blok's life and work as one self-sustaining whole. Her empathy, which comes partly from many years residence in Leningrad and partly from marriage to a Russian scholar and a warm understanding of Russian family life, is exceptional, and extends to every character in the story.

Blok's marriage was all the more intense for being deliberately "white", which left him free for drink and dabbling in the city and his wife for occasional affairs, the first of which gave her a child. Her husband was understanding and

Lyuba was touched, aged, grateful. The unhappy woman in her might well have preferred reproaches and a rough assertion of manhood, but it was her lot to live in the light of Blok's charity, and she sathered her battered dignity and responded as best she could. Besides, she loved him.

What they called the "impossible tenderness" of their free-deliately described as this throughout. The baby died, and Lyuba's frustrations turned increasingly to the stage. The Blok spent a good deal of time apart, she with Meyerhold's company, later nursing on the Polish Front, but when Blok really needed her she was always there. Once she got there, of course, he needed to work alone.

Blok's poetry is distinguished by the mastery with which he

between precise dramatic observation of everyday life in the city or the countryside and cryptic prophecies of the most apocalyptic kind, and Dr Pyman is at her most accomplished in conveying the sense in which life, work, music and art in the last years spanning Empire and Revolution were informed by the rhythms of history, literally lurching forward and on the march. "Some times," wrote Korney Chukovsky in the year after Blok's death, "when he spoke of Russia it seemed to me as though he felt Russia, too, with his whole body, like physical pain."

The poet's premonition of the new age had been made over more than a decade with body and spirit in equal measure and both were exhausted together. "At the end of the service they carried him out into the snow, and beneath a white cross, consigned his body to the poor, autumnal soil of his native city." The Bolshevik pantheon claimed him later.

Michael Ratcliffe



Susanna Fourment by Peter Paul Rubens in the Albertina, Vienna, from Drawing: history of an art by Genevieve Monnier and Bernice Rose (Macmillan, £50)

More misunderstood Vikings

The Vikings

By James Graham-Campbell

and Dafydd Kidd

(British Museum Publications Ltd, £8.95, paperback £2.95)

Gods of the North

By Brian Branston

(Thames & Hudson, paperback £3.50)

The Viking World

By Jacqueline Simpson

(B. T. Batsford, £7.95)

The Viking Achievement

By P. G. Foote

and D. M. Wilson

(Sidgwick & Jackson, £10.00, paperback £5.50)

Edited by David M. Wilson

The Northern World

(Thames & Hudson, £15.00)

The Vikings, the official book for the Viking exhibition, is a lavishly illustrated work on the subject in a commendably succinct form. Most of the illustrations are magnificent, and give a wonderful visual impression of both the context for, and achievement of, Viking material culture. There are a few omissions (greater discussion and illustration of carved vessels would have been in order), and the text can be heavygoing at times, one suspects that most readers will be unable to accept the invitation of the authors to have "fun" in disentangling the "animals" on two silver disc brooches in the chapter on Art and Ornament. It is perhaps unfortunate that the error of date occurs at the beginning of the Introduction, but in general it impresses, and the paperback edition will be marvellous value at the exhibition.

Whether it will be convenient to use there remains to be seen: a "List of Exhibits" is tacked on to the end without cross-reference to either text or illustration in the main body of the book. Since it is

clear that the major catalogue will be out of reach of most pockets, the Trustees should perhaps have given this matter more attention.

The latest research is less obvious with *Gods of the North*. Although this work is primarily concerned with detail culled from literature, it is a disappointment to an archaeologist that apparently the work of the 25 years since it was first written has had so little effect on the treatment of the subject: a few rather poorly-reproduced photographs will not suffice. Also, while this book goes into admirable detail on the subject, the reader's confidence is shaken by phrases such as "a furious wave of drop-whiskered, slant-eyed, butter-faced horsemen" (the Huns) in what is claimed to be a "succinct historical introduction". A glance at the relevant section of the other books discussed here will demonstrate the vital interconnection of recent work in several disciplines.The re-issue by Jacqueline Simpson of *Everyday Life in the Viking Age*, first published in 1967 as *The Viking World* is welcome. Her book in 1967 was a clear, well-written account of the way of life in the Viking period and while easily read by a non-specialist, was also scholarly. A multitude of illustrations, both verbal and visual, were skilfully woven together to produce a vivid picture that relied on recent work in philology, literature, history and archaeology. Even if the scholarship was worn lightly, it underpinned the whole garment. Its virtues are as obvious in 1980 as then, for the author has contrived to update almost every section of the book by insertion of new work in philology, literature, history and archaeology. Truly, new material from excavations in Bergen, Jutland, and Orkney feature, while revisions have been made where scholarship has overtaken the original text. The book is a gem. (The driving force behind the initial raids had been the acquisition of wealth?), it is a pleasing book.

Christopher Morris

Grandmother Laura Norder

An Ungovernable People

Edited by John Brewer and John Styles

(Hutchinson, £12.50)

Law is like a language: if we cannot speak it, or if we are short on vocabulary, we are liable to get into trouble. Like every language, it has dialects, which regulate our transactions far more often than the refined usages of the courts themselves: most human conflicts are resolved before matters get to court on the basis of various shared ideas about what is legal, what is fair and what is worth the effort.

In the past the dialects were richer and more rank. The law was ferocious in its penalties, and it was a truism that its ferocity was tempered by inefficiency. There was no police force, and no fingerprint testing. But, as *An Ungovernable People* shows, it was also tempered by a recognition on both sides that the letter of the law was a rigid and often unhelpful way of keeping the peace, only to be invoked in the last resort. Enforcement was a political process at the same time as being a judicial one.

Archaeological observers, then as now, often grumbled that the framework of civil order was lacking. Pickets defying the Court of Appeal in our own day may appear, and may suppose themselves, to be making a revolutionary attack on the

primacy of established law. It is also valid to see them, carrying on an old-established tradition of letting off steam in the area of give-and-take at the margin of the law. Three hundred years ago that area was far wider than it is now.

Food riots were officially regarded in Charles VI's day as a collective form of theft with violence. Rioters could be hanged. Uprisings were not uncommon in seasons when grain fetched higher prices abroad than at home. But in practice rioters were scarcely ever punished at all. There was an accepted way of going about things, to nudge the authorities into doing something about famine relief.

Such protests were in fact demonstrations in the modern sense, rituals with their own symbolism. Women often led them, because according to the dialect of law then current, women were even less likely to be punished severely than persons of discretion. Sometimes their children came too (today, the latter would ride in push chairs bearing "Action Now" placards).

The Maldon Incident of 1629, which the book follows in detail, was exceptional in that two riots occurred within a few months of each other. The first followed the conventional pattern. But the depression continued, the poor tried the same thing again, and the authorities took serious fright: arrests

were made, and four rioters were hanged (one was a woman, indicating that the court took what we should no doubt regard as a commendably advanced view of the status of women). But once again most of the rioters went unpunished, and official steps, more energetic than before, were taken to speed the supply of grain.

The book traces the same feeling that the law belonged to the people and not to the lawmakers in the campaigns fought by the followers of John Wilkes later in the eighteenth century. They ingeniously and cheekily exploited the letter of the law against the authorities, in particular against Lord Mansfield, the Denning of his day.

The book ends with a description of one of the most curious backwaters of the old law, the extraordinary institution of the debtors' prison. The law here was a mixture of the old and the new, like the relations of law today, it simply provided a kind of empty space in which the parties could resolve their differences as best they might. The King's Bench Gaol was a legal limbo, more refuge than punishment for its inmates, who in many important respects ran the place themselves, rather comfortably, in a spirit of prevarication, mild grievance and strong common interest.

George Hill

Christian Reject

The Gnostic Gospels

By Elaine Pagels

(Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £7.95)

Christian thought and practice might have turned out quite differently if some of its early development had been followed out. We might now have passion-tide services which exclude all thought of a human sufferer, and Easter celebrations which recall the Christian's revival of confidence in their spiritual destiny rather than the discovery of an empty grave, or even the tangible presence of a returning Saviour.

We might even have had a more authoritative hierarchy of priests and popes, but sought our Christian inspiration from anyone we trusted. We might have eliminated the male dominance which has made us think of God as "Father" and approach him through an all-male priesthood; for there certainly were Christians in the second century who addressed God as "Mother" and "Father" alike, and held that the women associates of Jesus interpreted his teaching more truly than his male disciples.

One cannot blame the publishers of this handsomely produced volume for making the most of its topical appeal, but in fact it is a good deal more informative and less sensational than the blurb might suggest. Professor Pagels is not the equal of Hans Jonas or Rudolf Bultmann, but she is a gifted and dedicated scholar, and she writes responsibly. Her picture of the Gnostic movement in the early Church is reliable, provided always one remembers that it was a minority movement. From the time it showed features which made for disruption and disintegration, as against the relatively cohesive structure of the early catholic Church, where visible unity was genuinely desired and romantically proclaimed, even if it was never achieved.

But the authors herself would go much further than this; she more than once suggests that the Christian beliefs were determined by a process of natural selection; the Church, whether consciously or not, adopted just those

beliefs which fostered a

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Academics at play

Not Work Alone

A Cross-Cultural View of Activities Superfluous to Survival

Edited by Jeremy Cherfas and Roger Lewin

(Temple Smith, £9.50)

One of the most depressing effects of the increased leisure time we are all supposed to be enjoying is that play is becoming so like work. As it is industrialized, commercialized, politicized and, in this book, analysed so its spontaneity and joy are diminished. Some, by no means all, of the contributors to this anthology are aware of this. Jeremy Cherfas, for instance, writing about children's games, concedes that "grown-ups" by which in this context I take him to mean anthropologists, psychologists, folklorists and others of that sort, "often do something that is the children themselves would do, but lose sight of the real point of the games of childhood. Above all else, games are fun."

Professor Pollio of the University of Tennessee, who has set himself the unenviable task of discovering what is humorous about humour seems un-

easily aware of the pitfalls that lie ahead, but this does not prevent him revealing, poking, faced, that in 1970 two audiences attending the film *Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice* had their laughter measured on a sound level recorder. The 8 pm audience laughed 28 times, the 10 pm audience 22. Twenty-one of these laughs were in response to the same punch lines. On further examination it was discovered that "jokes that produce guffaws at 8 pm sometimes fell flat at 10 pm, and vice versa". This leads Professor Pollio to the reasonable conclusion that "what was funny for one group of people was not as funny for another group of people".

It is noticeable that when the academics in this survey (and one has no need to be statistically valid) address themselves to the familiar they are much more likely to seem banal or questionable than when they are writing about the exotic.

Just as Professor Pollio seems to go to undue lengths to be confronted with the blindingly obvious, so fellow contributors do very startling to say about "The

Purpose of Play" or "Play in Context" at least so as to us who have children, of the reports of the *Truth News* for blasphemy.

Donald Berman on "duels", however, is quite other matter, tripping us from the scholar's sanctity into the obscene fytting medieval Scotland, the duels of Turkey and the song duellists of Greenland. "must meet especially of ing standards, as they on other on the 'duelling'." Terence Turner in to compare the B Kayapo Indian (lower J. penis sheath of palm, red and black body paint hair shaved to a point, crown) with the Victorian gentlemen. David Richman Eskimo running Eskimo roulette both of he played for bullets. Above all else, games are fun."

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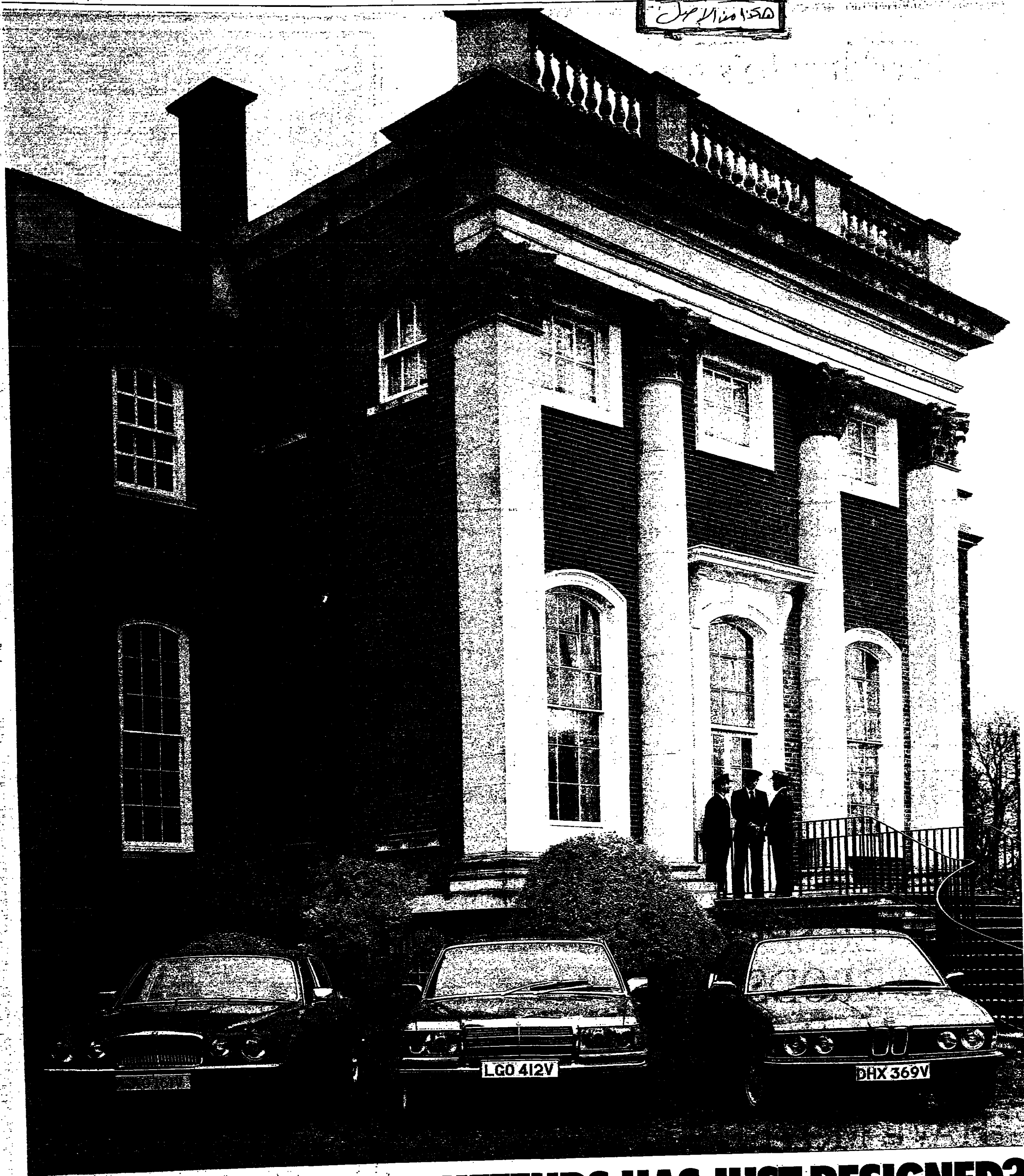
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J.P. 11/10/150



WHICH OF THESE CHAUFFEURS HAS JUST RESIGNED?

Yes, it's the BMW chauffeur who's been driven to resign.

He's tired of taking a back seat while his boss has all the fun of driving the new BMW 732i.

So he's found a job driving a Jaguar where he doesn't expect the same problem to arise.

Mark you, as soon as you sit behind the wheel of the 732i, it all begins to come clear.

And clearer still as you accelerate to 60 mph in 8.7 seconds.

Or hug bends as though on a rail.

It's a joy to drive fast and know your mother-in-law won't even notice.

And it's very reassuring to know that your children asleep in the back are particularly safe.

And even if you're stuck in a traffic jam on the way to the airport there's an air of peace in the car that takes the edge off

missing the plane.

It's also nice to know that even while you're sitting in that traffic jam the ignition is being 'tuned' fifteen times every second.

The BMW 732i is the only car in the world with the motronics system — a micro-chip computer which constantly keeps the car running at its best.

So you don't use a drop more petrol than you need.

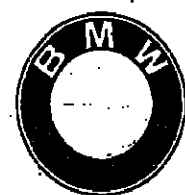
All the new BMW 7s now have fuel

injection, too, and overall use 7% less petrol than the original BMW 7 Series.

So you can look forward to even the longest journey with satisfaction.

This is a car for people who like to be in the driving seat.

Even when they're not in the car.



THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE

THE BMW 732i is priced at £13,643.00. PRICE INCLUDES: CAR TAX, VAT AND FRONT AND REAR SEAT BELTS. NUMBER PLATES, ROAD FUND LICENCE AND DELIVERY CHARGES EXTRA. PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. FOR FULL DETAILS WRITE TO: BMW (GB) LTD, MARKETING DEPT, ELLESFIELD AVENUE, BRACKNELL, BERKS. DEPT. OF ENERGY

large state
 Weltshmerz.
 remind me
 author said:
 be good. But
 been born un-

Having worked in large and small hospitals and, medical schools and having examined students in all the London teaching hospitals, the advantages of the smaller more intimate schools are obvious. In medicine, Big is not Beautiful. Morning round round the bed on teaching rounds and more personal small-group teaching with more opportunities for what might be called the apprenticeship approach to practical medicine and medical therapeutics are all great advantages for the medical student, who nowadays has so much more to learn than he used to, and who for this reason has to have intellectual feet more firmly of the ground. Examination results have been excellent, as has the students' prowess on the sports field. Westminster was and is a happy Hospital and Medical School and its effluence is unshakable. The Hospital has been active since 1719 and the School for over a century. Both from the students' and the parents' point of view, the closing of the school would seem to be a disastrous decision, and one that I hope will be reviewed and reversed.

Yours faithfully,
F. DUDLEY HART,
24, Harcourt House,
20, Harley Street, W1

Lonrho is refused discovery of Bingham documents in public interest

good faith to allow a
breach in proceedings,
tically the same issues.
Lord Justice Dunn gave
curving judgment.
Leave to appeal was
the court expressing the
any appeal should be
the same time as that
lodged to be heard in A
Solicitors : Cameron,
Norrie & Co ; Slaughter
Linklaters & Paines ;
Solicitor.

of Justice under Article 117 of



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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 10. Dealings End, March 21. § Contango Day, March 24. Settlement Day, March 29.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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[illegible]



New head of Monti group named

Signor Antonio Bisaglia, Italian Minister of Industry, has appointed Signor Alberto Grandi as commissioner to run the troubled oil empire of Signor Attilio Monti.

Signor Monti's activities include four refineries with annual capacity of 45 million tonnes and a network of service stations bought years ago from British Petroleum.

Signor Grandi, head of the Bastogi financial and industrial group, has held senior positions at the Montedison Chemical Co and at ENI, the state hydrocarbons group.

OECD prices rise

Consumer prices in member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development jumped to 1.5 per cent in January, the highest monthly rate in seven years, and up from 0.9 per cent in December, it was reported from Paris. For the 12 months ended in January the rise was 12.7 per cent.

Tokyo car debate

Mr Yoshitake Sakaki, Japan's international trade and industry minister, believes his country should comply with demands for more Japanese capital investment in the American car industry, and for increased car and car part purchases.

Danish debt interest

Every percentage point rise in foreign interest rates means the Danish government must pay around 240m kroner (about £19m) extra in interest on its foreign debt, Mr Niels Erik Sørensen, a foreign ministry official said in Copenhagen. Denmark estimates a payment of 3,600m kroner this year.

New Iranian field

Iran's national exploration company has struck light crude oil in a new field 35 kilometres north-east of Dezful, in the oil-producing Khuzestan province, a National Iranian Oil Co spokesman said in Tehran.

Investment confidence undermined by government 'indifference'

Wool industry calls for protection

Confidence of wool textile manufacturers to invest in design, marketing and higher productivity has been undermined by the "apparent indifference" of the Government and the European Commission to the industry.

In recent months, there have been a series of closures and redundancies. Imports of wool cloths to the United Kingdom market have risen to more than 45 per cent, according to an economic development committee report published today.

The report, produced for the National Economic Development Council, calls on the Government to provide greater protection from cheap imports and to consider providing wool textile areas with selective assistance.

Imports from low-cost countries are a small proportion of total penetration, but one which is growing rapidly. Cheap imports have potentially serious implications for profits and jobs.

Wool textiles is Britain's sixth largest export. In 1978 it had a turnover of £1,500m and employed more than 73,000 people, concentrated largely in Scotland and West Yorkshire.

The committee, led by Mr Brian Smith of ICI, says: "The Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) should be renewed in 1982 in an even tighter form than at present if longer-term confidence to invest is to be encouraged."

It is through the MFA that the growth of imports into the European Community from the developing countries is regulated.

According to the report: "The industry is confident that it can compete effectively in sophisticated markets if its home market base is not eroded by low-cost imports."

The Government is also asked to ensure that no disruption of markets is caused



Mr Brian Smith: pressing for tightening of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement.

when Greece and later Spain and Portugal enter the Community.

It is conceded in the report that the wool textiles industry has been losing its reputation progressively for good design to Italian producers. However, the industry repeats complaints that many Italian manufacturers are working in the "black economy".

"Growth in the Italian clothing and textile industries has taken place in firms which, it is often claimed, officially employ only a few workers to avoid social security and pension contributions.

"Whole factories have been reported to be working on an underground basis and even the larger Italian mills are said to find it difficult to compete on prices with smaller producers who are able to reduce labour costs in this way.

"Tax evasion, under-invoicing, favourable credit schemes are other advantages, legal or otherwise, that benefit Italian producers", the report says.

The industry is looking for evidence to show that such practices lay the foundations of unfair competition, but believes that the Government should assist.

Meanwhile, the industry is attempting to recapture its former excellence in colour, innovation and design—for example, by coordinating fashion themes to promote British wool cloth at international fabric fairs.

The committee believes that 1980 could be the low point in the wool textile industry's trade cycle. It suggests that, to keep labour in the industry, unions and management should look into the question of overtime, determining whether there is any potential for work-sharing to reduce redundancies.

In the longer term, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, is asked to consider selective assistance for areas of high wool textile concentration.

The committee says that Sir Keith's decision to reduce the extent of the Development Areas has profound implications for the industry in West Yorkshire and Scotland. It means, for example, that in West Yorkshire, there would be no assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act in areas of high concentration.

What the EDC Progress Report 1980, available free from NEDO Books, 1 Steel House, 11 Tottil Street, London SW1H 9LJ.

John Huxley

Freight war hits British exporters

By Michael Bailly

Britain's exporters to North America are paying substantially higher freight rates than their continental rivals. The continental rates are 20-30 per cent down on the British needs for a slightly longer crossing.

Laporte Industries of Luxon said yesterday: "We are paying \$80 a ton for titanium dioxide, our main export product to the United States, compared with \$53 a ton from the continent. For the present we are absorbing the extra which means we are getting a lower return than our continental competitors, but we cannot go on doing that indefinitely."

The North Atlantic West-bound Freight Association (NAWFA) declined to comment yesterday except to say that the lines were examining the situation. It arises from the withdrawal from the continental conference of America's Sea-Liner.

British warned about 'lack of imagination'

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

Britain is suffering from an "imagination gap", not a technology gap, Mr Donald Rowley, deputy managing director and technical director of British Aerospace dynamics group at Bristol said last night.

Britain in general and British Aerospace in particular could be prevented from participating in some of the more futuristic proposals because of a national lack of "real will and imagination", he added.

Delivering the Barnwell memorial lecture of the Royal Aeronautical Society in Bristol, Mr Rowley said that the imagination gap was at present to a certain degree in civil aviation and in defence — but was "dangerously close" in three areas of space engineering where Britain could play a significant future role. Those were communication satellites, earth resources satellites, and space power stations.

Another major point expressed in the institution's submission, again in conflict with that of the Finniston committee, is in its recommendation for a two-tier structure of chartered and registered engineers.

At present, the title chartered engineer is awarded to practising graduate professional engineers with the appropriate experience. According to the institution, since the publication of the Finniston report, there has been a great deal of lobbying within the profession to keep the title. But the institution maintains that "the qualification of registered engineer should not be introduced."

The IME has—like the other electrical, civil and chemical professional bodies—been conducting discussions with industry on the status, training and salary of engineers.

Mr Gordon Dawson, president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, believes that the decade in a professional engineer's life between 35 and 45 is the most underpaid.

"Engineers must be given more responsibility at an early stage in their careers and trained in such a fashion that they can be so used," Mr Dawson said.

The institution's findings are only a small part of the debate taking place among the 180,000 professional engineers in the United Kingdom. Those diverse opinions will have to be satisfied if any of the major proposals of the Finniston inquiry is to be implemented.

Furthermore, the prices of these commodities go up arbitrarily in that Chancellor of the Exchequer use them for increasing revenue, so that they add an arbitrary element to the apparent cost of living.

Ought not the Chancellor to consider this? You would render a service if you would ascertain and publish the figures.

Yours faithfully,
P. C. BAYLEY
107 North Street,
St. Andrews,
Fife.

From Mr P. C. Bayley
Sir, Should not alcohol and tobacco be removed from the list of commodities considered to constitute the cost of living? They are not necessary for life, and it is increasingly agreed that they are a danger to health. If they were excluded, how much difference would it make to the inflation figure? And, even more interesting, how would that figure have looked over the past 10 years if they had been excluded?

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Engineers oppose Finniston report

By Bill Johnston

The Institution of Mechanical Engineers is opposing the structure of the Engineering Authority proposed by the Finniston inquiry into the profession.

In a 42-page document submitted to the Government, it outlines areas of disagreement and agreement gathered from 12,000 British mechanical engineers, who are members of the institution. The concept of an Engineering Authority, says the institution "is one which we accept in principle, but only if it is—and is seen to be—an instrument of the profession and not one of Government."

The institution suggested that the composition should be no more than 15 members of whom eight should be nominated by the chartered institutions, five drawn from employers and academic life, and two nominated by the Privy Council which would, according to the institution, "protect the public interest."

The IME emphasizes the need for the engineering authority to be autonomous, not to be financially totally independent. Such fundings therefore must be self-generated and minus any dependency on government subsidies.

The institution also believes that the Finniston committee was wrong in not harnessing the experience of the existing professional institutions in its recommended structure for the profession. Over the past 150 years they alone have taken upon themselves the responsibility of creating a competent, identifiable engineering profession. Now they are to be kept at arms length from the authority, expected to provide a number of services and the fruits of their experience, yet have little or no influence on its strategy.

Another major point expressed in the institution's submission, again in conflict with that of the Finniston committee, is in its recommendation for a two-tier structure of chartered and registered engineers.

At present, the title chartered engineer is awarded to practising graduate professional engineers with the appropriate experience. According to the institution, since the publication of the Finniston report, there has been a great deal of lobbying within the profession to keep the title. But the institution maintains that "the qualification of registered engineer should not be introduced."

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Monetarism: no basis for theory that economy is self regulating

From Mr Frank Hahn and Mr Robert Neild

Sir, In his critique of our article (February 25), Professor Friedman (March 3), first accuses us for some reason quite beyond us, of writing about the "Phillips Curve" (to which we made no reference, oblique or otherwise), rather than about the proposition we did address and which we believe to be central to monetarism.

As is currently perceived by politicians, namely, that slower monetary growth will reduce inflation without causing more than voluntary and temporary unemployment. But then he goes on to say that he "entirely agrees" with our criticism of the theory on which he based that central proposition; he makes the welcome and serious admission that he has no firm theoretical basis for the empirical regularities he claims to observe.

In fact, Professor Friedman has rendered his assertions about empirical relationships over time between the quantity of money and other variables incapable of refutation. For, having stated some rather precise time lags between the change in one magnitude and another, he adds the caveat, as he has done in the past, that the time lags "vary from episode to episode". Instead of accepting his challenge to offer empirical evidence contradicting these well-established propositions, we therefore wait the day when he specifies his theory in a manner that is open to the possibility of refutation.

As an illustration of how Professor Friedman proceeds, some points should be noted about the small sample of evidence in his new book, to which he referred the reader. This consists of charts showing for five countries the movement of the money stock per unit of output and consumer prices. No sources are given, though it was Professor Fried-

man who, in answering some queries, colleagues of ours, in your columns, wrote: "The paper is so carefully written that the reader is never told the source of the data used" (April 24, 1977).

As evidence that causation goes from money to prices we are told that "on most of the charts the number plotted for the quantity of money is for a year ending six months earlier than the year to which the matching price index corresponds". We can find no indication, however, as to which chart has a lag in it and which does not.

But, even so, what can we learn from the charts? First, the time lag between money per unit of output and prices in the list of propositions. Professor Friedman is invited to refuse to use any of the charts in the book he uses nil or six months. Hence, if the charts were to show the association for which he makes such strong claims in his book, he would, on his own evidence, have met the challenge he made to us.

In fact, the charts show that money per unit of output and prices both have a strong upward trend, as we would expect. That proves nothing. Turning points are everywhere, though the reader is not told that. In fact, they are few and an association between the turning points in the two sets of figures is wholly unclear.

Of course, we accept the proposition that the quantity of money, that if we compare two economies which are exactly alike except that the quantity of money in one is half that in the other, then if money wages and prices, and expected money wages and prices, are also half, and we can ignore redistributions between debtors and creditors, people in the two economies will be in exactly the same real position. But no causal law flows from that.

Professor Maynard (Business Letters, February 27), having agreed that unemployment is not all caused by wages (other than those changes) refusing employment, cause they think the real wage is too high. He says that it is caused by the wage being too high. His argument, however, does not in critical analysis. The fact of money and fuel prices, relative to the price of other goods does not mean that it is a lowering of "the marginal revenue product of labour" relative to the going "own" wage.

To take an example in the day times, the recent rise in the price of gold may have led to a less than proportionate rise in the price of this jewellery, since goldsmith wages have risen far less than the price of gold. But that does not mean that the value to employer of an extra he works by a goldsmith and jewellery has fallen to the point where it is no longer worth the reduced amount of gold which the worker could have with his wage. Professor Maynard's other points have dealt with by Professor Neild (Business Letters, February 29).

We concluded that "neither theoretical nor empirical support for the monetarists' proposition that the economy is self-regulating and that activity employment can be relied to recover automatically the present fiscal and monetary squeeze". This exchange opinion is not diminishing confidence in that conclusion.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK HAHN,
ROBERT NEILD,
Faculty Board of Economics and Politics,
University of Cambridge,
Sidgwick Avenue,
Cambridge CB3 9DD,
March 7.

Rules of the game

From Mr Nils Gunnar Brander

Sir, I have followed the debate over monetarism on this page and in Business News with great interest. I think, however, that you have made a mistake in presenting the matter as an argument between people who understand economics and those who do not (leading article, February 26).

By all means let people like Professor Friedman supply the theoretical background to political decisions. But the acceptability or otherwise to the British people of expert solutions is surely a matter for the collective wisdom of the people's representatives exclusively. It is perhaps unnecessary to state here that economic decisions do not take place in a vacuum, as in a game of Monopoly, but that they directly affect people, not all of whom will benefit from a free play of market forces, even in the long run.

The debate is, of course, really between the fundamentally opposed political philosophies of collectivism versus individualism. Tory and Labour represent the former, in the shape of hierarchical inequality, an egalitarianism, respectively, whereas Liberals in the Ben-El-Mechaieq sense (like Margaret Thatcher) preach the latter.

The decision we have to make (collectively) is how we can, to the benefit of all, utilise most effectively the efforts of the individual to further his own ends.

Professor Friedman's laissez-faire evangelism is certainly welcome in a society which is being strangled by conditions that discourage personal initiative, but there must be a political and ethical consensus, shared by a great majority of the people, about the rules before start of play. Otherwise someone is going to be badly hurt.

Yours faithfully,
NILS GUNNAR BRANDER,
Bankside,
St Margaret's Farm,
South Darenth,
Near Dartford,
Kent
March 4.

From Mr E. J. Wratten
Sir, Payments in the black economy are bound by their nature to be unrecorded, and there is no reason to believe that the Central Statistical Office estimate that these payments amount to "little more than 3 per cent of the total national economy" (Business News, March 5) is more reliable than the "7 per cent of gross domestic product" estimated by Sir William Pile when he was chairman of the Inland Revenue.

Few of us regard the filling-in of government questionnaires as our favourite exercise, and we feel no strong urge to ensure the accuracy of government statistics, particularly when a fully revealing answer to the question, "How much did you spend on...?" might point to undercover receipts of our own.

which have been omitted from the income side of the same form. Yet the CSO, apparently relies on these answers in compiling its estimate.

The CSO has an honourable record of publishing figures unbiased by political influence, and this reputation has only been slightly dented by its unfortunate acquiescence in the introduction last year of the tax and price index for current political motives. But we should be wary of assuming that this special credence to its estimate "in a sphere where the term 'anybody's guess' would be more fitting."

Yours faithfully,
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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

ICI underlines the difficulty

Justy prices fell back sharply yesterday and the reason is not hard to find—a steady stream of bleak company news; a tale of ailing profits, of the struggle to attain dividends or the acceptance that they must be cut. With forecasts predicting a non-oil corporate sector deficit of up to £7,000m this year, this of course is only a beginning. What is clear though is that a recession is not only underway, it is ready there in the company sector for all to see.

ICI's 1979 accounts, for example, highlight just how heavily it is banking on an improvement in profitability from the expected upturn in the chemicals cycle in a year or so to restore the balance sheet to previous strength.

Having steadily built-up its resources in a mid-1970s after the heavy spending at the end of the 1960s had put some strain on cash position, the last couple of years have seen a sharp deterioration with net funds of £550m at the end of 1977 falling to only £139m by end-1979 after further £256m fall during the year. Indeed cash outflow is even more serious with a £127m rise in net long-term borrowings shoving it up to £383m getting on for the level of the previous year.

Clearly ICI's heavy capital spending of a short of £2,000m in 1977-79, which for the company is not far short of the group's market capitalization, is the major reason for this. That has now peaked with spending last year at £760m and sanctions curbing running almost a third below 1978. But the rise in oil prices, with related costs one way or another soaking a fifth of the group's overall sales income, is putting heavy pressure on working capital which went up almost a quarter or 12m last year, compared with only £62m in 1978.

For the moment ICI can live off the fat of the year and long-term borrowings to vital employed of 30 per cent gives it plenty of leeway should the chemical cycle longer to improve than it is currently seeing.

ICI is also concerned about its inadequate return on capital for the same reasons with aimed profits and depreciation amounting to £808m a long way short of capital spending and higher working capital.

Although this rose 1.8 points to 15.2 per cent in historical terms, the current cost of capital dropped by a fifth to 4.6 per cent. The CCA dividend cover is still a comfortable two times. All in all ICI's balance sheet is a disturbing pointer to what seems likely to happen to less well-managed parts of the British industry.

Woolworth
this year, next year...
There have been so many false dawns at Woolworth that yesterday's better than expected results are unlikely to change the negative image of the company. Woolworth can hardly be faulted for trying to improve its lacklustre performance over the past several years.

It has tried to alter the sales mix, revamp its bigger units, has gone into the hyper-market business. It has also moved into the hopes of catching some of the supermarket glamour, a business it is proud of now. Nothing has yet worked to change the image significantly.

Profits for the year to January are up a £53m to £57m on sales which had risen from £823m to £888m leaving margins for the year virtually intact at 6.4 per cent. The significant point is the improvement in the fourth quarter after a disastrous drop in profits in the past quarter. The quarterly profit of £238m indicating a 11.1 per cent to 11.7 per cent, a significant achievement for a group of that size.

Change in sales mix and buoyant sales in such items as clothing, toys, and horticulture probably account for the improvement. Looking ahead is difficult. Wages in this labour intensive business are set to rise by over 20 per cent in the second and third quarters and no one can predict how the recession will hit Woolworth.

Business Diary: Keeping 'em down on the farm
The second biggest grouse of housewives—after conveyancing fees—seems to be under attack, though the "villains" of the plot, estate agents and surveyors, are so far unfettered.

The Property Shop, which opens next week in Edgware, Middlesex, is in the vanguard of a do-it-yourself movement in property selling. Sellers simply pay £40 for a month's display of their home among the shop's glossy photos and inclusion in local paper adverts would be the buyers purchase drive of the properties they are interested in. For 10p the further of any they wish to take.

The business is based on the savings of two mums, Jo Kloss, 32, and Barbara Morris, 34. Jo Kloss told "Business

Women are beginning to come back into fashion as a subject of conversation in polite society. It is five years now since the Equal Pay Act came into force, and this with the Sex Discrimination (Amendment) Act of the same year was followed by a sort of public yawn.

But to the European Commission in Brussels is carrying four member countries—Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and, wait for it, the United Kingdom—for alleged infringement of a Community directive on equal pay.

The shares at 70p are on a p/e ratio of 9.7 and yield 10 per cent. The asset backing is 145p and there is always the possibility of some restructuring of the group. A takeover of the American parent, the sale of control of the British company and other alternatives have all been mooted over the years. One day something may happen; meanwhile the shares are a safe hold.

BSR

Who wants trouble?

Is someone—ITT perhaps—stalking BSR? The answer, in spite of rumours in the stock market, is probably not. Or, rather, if they are it is hard to see why. BSR's latest annual figures are dreadful: profits before extraordinary charges are down from £8.9m to £3.9m, and the dividend has been cut by nearly 50 per cent. But this is not a familiar story of management ineptitude. BSR's management is by all accounts sound, though beleaguered.

The mistake of failing to diversify out of consumer products was made some time ago, so BSR must learn to live with a narrow range that by its nature will be at the mercy of any recession and at the whim of currency fluctuations. These factors came into play last year. Demand for record changers, the product which created BSR as a growth company ten years ago, was poor in the United States, a problem compounded by the strength of sterling against the dollar. In another important market, Japan, the yen was weak. That meant cheaper built-in Japanese sound reproduction equipment.

Who wants trouble like this at a price of around £50m? BSR must learn to live with the fact that it is an ex-growth company with deteriorating balance sheet (borrowings have probably risen from around £42m to £20m as a result of last year's trauma) and there is still no real case for holding the shares at 34p, yielding nearly 12 per cent.

Turner & Newall

The Rhodesian gamble

Turner & Newall's second-half results are hair-raising. Profits fell over £10m short of budget, leaving full-year profits down by 31 per cent to £67.5m. Even a major dividend but short-earned dividend indicated at the interim stage—failed to stop the shares slipping 15p to 110p where the yield is well up in the danger zone at 14.9 per cent.

Strikes cost £5m; strong sterling a further £4m and higher interest rates on swollen debt raised charges by two-thirds to £14.1m.

Under current cost accounting the £12.5m cost of the dividend would not even have been covered by pre-tax profits which slipped into single figures.

The decision to hold the dividend, says chairman Mr Stephen Gibbs, "indicates confidence in the future". It is certainly a gamble; both on recovery in the United Kingdom, which caused the problems last year, and of course on Rhodesia.

Rhodesia apart, hopes for 1980 rest on rationalization and heavy spending bearing fruit: £45m of new plant has come on in the past six months. £30m was in the United Kingdom. Moreover, because all the tax except ACT and all minorities (£4.2m in 1979) relate to overseas profits, any increase in the United Kingdom will feed straight through to earnings.

But even if profits recover to the 1978 level of around £40m—and this could prove optimistic given the steel strike and looming recession—the fully-taxed p/e ratio would still be a demanding 8 or so.

So the crux is Rhodesia. Forecast profits of £12m from here in 1980 would reduce the p/e ratio to perhaps 5.7 while net assets of £92m would transform the balance-sheet where a 50 per cent rise in net debt has left T & N 54 per cent geared. The potential locked up in the self-financing Rhodesian subsidiary could be considerable. If Mr Mugabe smiles, T & N could prove a sound bet.

Jo Kloss
Diary: "I feel we will be offering a service to a large sector of the market. Unless you are interested in a £100,000 property in London, all estate

Barbara Morris
agents give you a couple of bits of paper and you end up making your own phone calls anyway. And then charge you a lot of money for that."

Walter Goldsmith, the new director general of the Institute of Directors, is losing no time in putting into practice his theories about making directors more professional. He has linked it with a professional management consultancy, Tysack & Partners, to upgrade non-executive directors.

100 will march members willing to serve on non-executives with likely companies seeking to extend their boards. The service, which extends a facility already offered separately by both organisations, will operate on a 50:50 basis.

The fee, which could amount to year's salary, will be split down the middle. A consultancy service to scrutinize the requirements of individual companies will also be offered.

Moves are afoot, I understand, to get these ladies to stand with the CBI and deliver speeches at this year's conference in Brighton.

Economic notebook

One cheer for the EMS

The European monetary system, which is one year old today, has on the face of it outperformed the expectations of its most confirmed supporters.

Exchange rate relations between EEC countries were more stable in 1979 than in any year since 1972. As the European Commission has reported, the average change in member states' exchange rates vis-à-vis the European currency unit, the weighted basket of EEC currencies that is the denominator of the system, fell to 1.9 per cent last year compared with 5.2 per cent in the average of the six preceding years.

The finance ministers of the eight countries participating in the EMS have shown themselves capable of adjusting the central rates that link the member currencies without devaluing the idea of more stable exchange rates. So far there have been no drop outs from the EMS in contrast to its predecessor, the European currency "snake".

So why only one cheer for the EMS? Has it not achieved all that the European Council wished for when it concluded in Bremen in July 1978, the "scheme for the creation of a closer monetary cooperation leading to a zone of monetary stability in Europe" was a "highly desirable objective"? Do not its first 366 days make it the "durable and effective" monetary unit? Second, the real motive for setting up and operating the EMS is as obscure as ever.

When the EMS was being negotiated in the second half of 1978, critics argued that the scheme set out to put the cart before the horse: that by equating exchange rate stability with monetary stability, its authors were programming its eventual collapse.

The ability of the EMS to survive a year has done nothing to remove this criticism. During the period of relative calm on European exchange markets, the individual European economies have begun once more to diverge in terms of performance, and nowhere more clearly than in their ability to handle inflation.

Inflation gaps

In 1978 there was a gap of 10.1 percentage points between the highest rate of inflation in the EEC (Italy's) and the lowest (West Germany's). Last year the gap widened to 10.9 points. This year the difference between Germany and Italy is expected to be 12.1 points.

Foreign exchange markets are fashion conscious. Last year, balance of payments considerations helped to keep the EMS together. The strong surpluses of Italy and France in their current accounts resulted in an altogether unexpected show of strength by the lire and the franc, while the West German's shift to the Deutsche mark.

This year, with a clearer difference between single and double digit inflation countries in the EEC, current account deficits nearly everywhere, and Germany's further deterioration, current account fully discounted, currency markets could again react with greater sensitivity to inflation rate differences.

The system has yet to be seriously tested. When it is, questions will be asked about its purpose. Then the obscurity of ideas behind the scheme could become a serious handicap to survival.

Although one can argue that

the EMS would not have been possible without an ideological impulse behind it, it is a product of pragmatic men. The Florence speech of Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission, calling for a renewal of the debate on economic and monetary union in Europe in October, 1977, may well have been instrumental in guiding the thoughts of Herr Helmut Schmidt the German Chancellor, and President Giscard d'Estaing of France towards monetary stability.

But the resolution of the European Council of December 1978, which agreed to the terms of the first stage of the EMS, is a nuts and bolts affair: a catalogue of technical jargon about European Currency Units, central rates, intervention measures, financial assistance and the like.

Difficult negotiations

Throughout the months of negotiation it was never easy to work out quite what Herr Schmidt and President Giscard wanted from the EMS. The claims made for the system oscillated between the poetic and the prosaic. The glorious start of the EMS, held up by the "durable and effective" monetary unit, was followed by a lengthy silence from Paris and Bonn that suggested that the two authors of the EMS had lost interest in their creation.

However, recent indications from Bonn suggest that Herr Schmidt is trying to revive the political element in the EMS, while for some months there has been a vague promise that President Giscard is planning a monetary initiative for this year's world economic summit in Venice.

The German Chancellor's approach to Britain to reconsider membership of the exchange rate system is one pointer. During his visit to Brussels in February, he managed to persuade the Belgian Prime Minister that he was committed to the system.

It can be argued that the Franco-German decision to defer work on the second stage of the EMS until next year was motivated by a desire on the part of both governments to achieve a more successful and proper conditions for its further development beyond the present primarily technical arrangements.

With the West German and French elections out of the way, Bonn and Paris (assuming the present governments are confirmed in power) could provide the same input of effort in establishing the planned European Monetary Fund and turning the European Currency Unit into a true reserve asset as they did in forming the present exchange rate mechanism.

These straws, if they do represent the appearance of an ideological side to the EMS, are of vital relevance to Britain when considering whether the system should be joined. The exchange rate regime, Full British membership of the EMS could involve a commitment of far greater importance than the present desire to hold down the sterling exchange rate.

We shall probably have to wait some time before a test of the EMS to assess what exactly the present participants see in the scheme. A test by markets should show whether the politicians are prepared to subordinate national policies to the EMS and so bring economic and monetary union that little bit nearer to the realms of possibility, or whether the same national priorities will apply that wrecked the old European currency "snake" and turned it into a Deutsche mark currency block.

Peter Norman



Mr Dennis Norman (left) and Mr David Smith, respectively Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Commerce in the new Zimbabwe Cabinet.

The problems facing Mr Mugabe's team

Ruth Weiss

Salisbury
Rhodesian whites expressed relief when the announcement of the new Zimbabwean cabinet included the Rhodesian Front's Mr David Smith as Minister of Commerce and Industry, and Mr Dennis Norman, President of the Commercial Farmers Union, as Minister of Agriculture.

The whites completely control the economy, one which is export orientated, capital intensive and dependent upon foreign finance and markets.

But this situation will change and these status quo appointments must be seen as a bolding operation, to kindle white confidence. The emphasis of economic policy and strategy lies elsewhere.

An Economic Planning Ministry has been created. It will be the focal point of the broader economic strategy. Among its priorities will be the land question, the redistribution of wages and access for blacks to all social services, from education and health to transport and social security.

The most urgent of these, both politically and economically, is land. The racial division of land goes back to the conquest by the British South Africa Company in the 1890s. In 1898 an order in council allocated land for white settlement.

The total land area is 96.4 million acres, of which 45 million acres each were set aside for whites and blacks despite the disparities in population. Blacks outnumbered whites by 20 to one at the time of Unilateral Declaration of Independence. Today the ratio is 25 to one.

Dr Ahrn Palley, a well known Zimbabwean political personality, says that it will not be as costly to redistribute land fairly, as calculations made by some economists suggest. "In the past, it has been political policy to keep many White farmers on the land, and they have been subsidized by massive cheap loans to the extent of R569,050,000 and many have been allowed to default. This is a far cry from economic farming, in fact it is subsidized land settlement for the whites.

The pattern of the economy in Rhodesia was determined by the pattern of land redistribution. The same will apply to the new Zimbabwe, so it is important for the new government to get it right.

Sanctions notwithstanding, foreigners invested about R530m a year in Rhodesia but by the beginning of 1975, because of the war, the oil crisis and the world recession, the Rhodesian

economy was under serious pressure. The Smith Government had to borrow heavily to pay for the war and for the 1979 fiscal year, a borrowing of R545m had been estimated, around 42 per cent of current expenditure. Mr Riddell says that "Rhodesia has been borrowing about R5400m a year from South Africa". This is only part of Rhodesia's secret public debt. The war destroyed much of the infrastructure and utterly disrupted the rural economy.

The priorities for the new government therefore are mapped out, to reorientate the economy and integrate it into the purely peasant, black, economy.

Society as a whole needs to be restructured. This will be a slow process and cannot for some time include nationalization of the private sector. Skills must be quickly promoted among the black population while the creation of jobs in the modern economy must go hand in hand with land redistribution.

Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has already said that the nucleus of collective farming exists within African society. Zimbabwe's tribal trust land is communally held. The land cannot be bequeathed or sold. The owner has usage in his lifetime but no title. In the past this hampered development because this land could not be mortgaged. In future, access to loans, extension services, and markets will help in the transformation.

Another problem which the new government will have to tackle is wage differentials. In 1977 average black wages were R5589 a year, that is 10 per cent of average white wages of R56,155 a year. Rhodesia's chronic unemployment and underemployment has been among the black not the white population.

The new government's aims are likely to be the lessening of dependency on foreign capital and knowhow and increased self-sufficiency in food production. Nothing can happen overnight, but the government is already acutely aware of the high expectations of its electorate.

WOOLWORTH Annual Results

Year ended 31 January 1980

	Year Ended 1980 30/01/80	1979 30/01/79
TURNOVER (including value added tax)	977,995	875,185
Deduct: Value added tax	(89,847)	(51,793)
TURNOVER (excluding value added tax)	888,148	823,392
TRADING PROFIT	74,244	84,474
Deduct: Depreciation	(10,295)	(8,475)
Interest paid less received	(9,208)	(4,834)
Add: Rent income	1,693	1,442
Surplus on property disposals, excluding sale and leasebacks	819	497
PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION	57,253	53,104
Taxation	(15,708)	(12,584)
PROFIT AFTER TAXATION	41,545	40,520
Deduct: Foreign currency differences	(754)	(357)
Add: Extraordinary items	—	(781)
PROFIT FOR YEAR	40,791	39,382
EARNINGS per Ordinary Stock Unit of 25p	10.99p	10.72p

Due to the considerable rise in the standard rate of Value Added Tax with effect from 23 June 1979, any comparison of turnover is best made on an ex-VAT basis. Turnover at £888 million for the year is a rise of 7.9%; in the important fourth quarter, it amounted to £288 million which is an increase of 8.7% over last year.

Trading profit at £74.2 million was 15.2% higher than the previous year and this improvement was due mainly to changes in merchandise mix coupled with good control of expenses.

The higher charge for depreciation includes property depreciation of £4.4 million (1979 £2.7 million). Interest costs are £4.4 million greater than last year due more to rises in U.K. interest rates than to increases in average borrowings.

Given the economic uncertainties and inflationary pressures likely to obtain during 1980, it is difficult to predict the rate of activity for the retailing trade. In the current financial year therefore, the Company's results for the first six months are unlikely to show an improvement over those of the corresponding period in the last year, any gains will probably occur in the second half of the year.

The Directors are proposing a final dividend for the year of 3.5685p (1979 3.245p) per stock unit.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO. LIMITED
Woolworth House, 242/246, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6AL

Ross Davies

FINANCIAL NEWS

One-for-six scrip from Sandvik

A one-for-six scrip issue is being made by Sandvik, the Swedish iron and steel giant which is quoted on the London and Stockholm exchanges. In 1979, pretax profits rose from 42.1m kr to 293.5m kr (about 11m) on sales up from 411.5m kr to 6,640.4m kr. The dividend, per share, is being lifted from 6.5 to 7 kr. Dividends per share are estimated at 36 kr (against 29 kr). Last year group order intake rose from 5,750m kr to 9,800m kr and investments are up from 360m kr to 533m including 160m kr for company acquisitions, compared with 1978's 54m kr.

International

Price rises accounted for 9 per cent of the sales increase, against 7 per cent in 1978, while volume growth accounted for 4 per cent, which is double the 1978 figure. The results for 1980 are expected to be in the same range as 1979's.

Aran Energy rights issue proposed

The board of Aran Energy is proposing to raise approximately 18.6m by the issue of 64,591 new ordinary shares on a basis of two new ordinary shares for every five held at 2p.

The present capital of Aran is sufficient for the issue, so the board is also proposing to increase the premium account from 18.7m to 18.6m. The creation of five million shares of 18.6p each. Part of the proceeds of the issue will be used to enable the company to fund its share of drilling costs to be incurred by Aran/EP during 1980 and 1981. Aran estimates that its share of the cost of three wells will be about 18.2m.

Overseas Union Bank

Overseas Union Bank reports group after-tax profit of \$21.3m (Singapore) in the year ended December 31, 1979—up 29.1 per cent from 1978.

The bank also proposed a one-for-five scrip issue—and a one-for-five rights issue, with the latter at a price of \$2 (Singapore) a share. The two issues will be based on the existing issued share capital of \$102.7m (Singapore). OUB also reports a first and final dividend of 12 per cent less tax, unchanged from a year earlier.

The company said both the bank and the group should be able to improve their earnings in 1980 from 1979's levels and maintain the same rate of dividend on the enlarged capital—A. P. Dow Jones.

Triangle Industries

In 1979, Triangle Industries' net income reached \$3.34m (or \$1.52 per share), compared with 1978's income from continuing operations of \$2.05m (94 cents). In 1978, income from discontinued operations of \$393,000, plus a tax credit of \$202,000, made a final net income of \$2.65m (or \$1.21 a share). Sales reached \$290.91m for 1979, against 1978's \$254.2m.

Net income for 1979 reflects the write-off of goodwill related to the discontinuance of the copper fittings product line, decreasing net earnings by \$197,000 or 9 cents a share.

The demand for Triangle's steel and copper fabricated products and custom-engineered equipment lines was strong in 1979. Mr Edward J. Simmons, chairman and president said.

"This momentum has continued into 1980. Based on our current operating performance, we believe we are well positioned to continue to grow with the favourable impact resulting from the elimination of unprofitable product lines, first-quarter 1980 earnings will exceed those reported for the first quarter of 1979."—A.P. Dow Jones.

Manila Electric Co

The Manila Electric Company of the Philippines is raising a \$47m syndicated loan over 10 years, according to a spokesman for the Indian Overseas Bank, which is participating in the loan.

The loan carries interest of 7 per cent over London Interbank offered rates for the first four years, and one per cent above LIBOR for the remaining six. It will be used to finance an expansion programme.

Unisec Group

Pretax profit for the Unisec Group was \$3.96m for 1979 against \$3.39m. Dividends from trading subsidiaries \$2.28m (\$1.80m).

Distributable earnings are \$6.07m (\$5.01m). Earnings per share are 14.4 cents (11.9).

Union Bank of M E

Union Bank of the Middle East reports profits for the 12 months to December 31, 1979, after transfer to loan loss provision and inter reserve, of UAE dirhams 33.5m (\$8.9m) against 23.5m dirhams (\$6.2m) for the previous nine months. The bank proposes a one-for-four scrip issue to expand its capital base.

Receivers appointed at Fertleman

Mr Guy Parsons and Mr William Ratford, partners in chartered accountants Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, have been appointed Joint Receivers of B. Fertleman and Sons.

The Receivers say that they are continuing to carry on the group's furniture manufacturing business whilst they undertake an urgent review of its viability.

Britannic Assurance pays more

Britannic Assurance is lifting its total gross dividend for 1979 from 14.7p to 17p. The company made a profit on long-term business of £2.31m, against £1.81m. General branch profits were up from £3,000 to £213,000.

Over £700,000 pretax at Lambert Howarth

On turnover up from £14.11m to £15.02m, pretax profits of Lancashire-based footwear makers, Lambert Howarth, rose from £645,000 to £724,000 in 1979. With earnings per share up from 10.6p to 12.6p, the total gross dividend is being raised from 5.06p to 5.8p.

Margins squeezed at Lookers

At the annual meeting of Lookers, the car distributors and engineers, shareholders

Rank Organisation



Rank Industries of Australia was now trading profitably and the management were confident of meeting budgeted profit for the year. Mr Harry Smith, chairman of the Rank Organisation, said at the annual general meeting yesterday.

Mr Smith is pictured (left above) with Mr Russell Evans, group managing director. Mr Smith said progress had been made in improving trading profit during the last four

years. "I believe we can maintain a steadily rising trend in profitability over the next four years", he added.

"I am confident we will perform well this year in the light of prevailing conditions. Once conditions become more normal, particularly in regard to the rates of inflation and interest charges, we are well prepared to achieve a rapid improvement in both group profits and the rate of return on our investments."

Hepworth make £9m agreed bid for Turner

By Rosemary Unsworth

J. Hepworth, the tailor, has made an agreed £9m bid for the Leicester-based footwear, hosiery and handbag group, W. & E. Turner, whose shares were suspended two days ago at 49p, while the details were worked out.

The terms of the offer are either 87p cash for every Turner share or shareholders may take Hepworth shares valued at 72p up to the cash limit they would have been entitled to under the basic offer. But Hepworth is limiting its share offer to 3.45 million shares and a scaling-down system will come into operation if more Turner shareholders opt for the alternative. The new Hepworth shares will not qualify for the interim dividend for the year to August 31, 1980.

The Turner board and their families, who control more than 50 per cent of the group, have irrevocably accepted for 52.1 per cent of the shares and have unanimously recommended the offer.

Hepworth intends to continue to operate the Turner business from Leicester. Turner has 145 retail outlets in England and Wales.

The 750 Turner employees will have their interests and pensions safeguarded. When the offer is declared unconditional, Turner chairman, Mr Kenneth Bowdler, and Mr Trevor Morgan, managing director, will join the Hepworth board and Hepworth board members will join the Turner board.

Turner's 1979 results showed a 22 per cent improvement in pretax profits to £1.67m on a turnover increase of £3.2m to £16m. In view of the agreed offer, the board has not recommended a dividend. Last year it paid a total of 2p gross.

Thomas Robinson, Engineers and machine makers, Thomas Robinson and Son pushed pretax profits up from £1.0m to £1.2m—a record—in 1979. Turnover rose from £7.76m to £9.75m. Total gross payment, 6.89p (5.44p).

Montford delivers promised profits rise

By Philip Robinson

Montford (Knitting Mills), the Leicester-based socks to pull-overs group, yesterday delivered the 70 per cent profits increase and near doubled dividend promised during its successful fight against a takeover from textile group David Dixon last year.

Trading up from the cheap imports market in its three knitted garment factories which produce pullovers, sweaters, children's wear and some ladies' clothes, helped lift pretax profits 72 per cent to £909,000 and the total dividend is raised from 5.604p to 9.996p with a 6.17p final payment. Turnover was 18 per cent ahead at £11.9m.

But the group are cautious about the current year and say

that although this order book is satisfactory, it is down on last year.

Deputy chairman, Mr Alan Norman, said: "Given reasonable level of support from major customers in the second half the company can produce satisfactory results for the current year, although these are unlikely to show the sort of percentage increases we are reporting at the moment."

The group's biggest customer is Woolworth's. Mr Norman said: "We are expressing this word of caution because it would take only a couple of months for any fall-off of consumer spending in the shops to work back to our factories."

Montford's main profit earner

Maynards rises by over a third at pretax level

By Our Financial Staff

Maynards, the confectionery group, has turned in a 36 per cent profits increase in its first half on sales up by 11 per cent. But the underlying trading profit increase, before charging depreciation, falls to 1.4 per cent.

The pre-tax figure of £1.65m, against £1.2m last time, is boosted by an exceptional item of £497,000, compared with £26,000 in the last half-year. This relates to the profit made on a sale and leaseback arrangement on the shop in Worthing.

Stripping out this and the depreciation charge of £236,000, against £186,000 last time, the trading profit figure is £1.4m against £1.37m on sales up from £21.7m to £24.15m.

After allowing for the fact that the period covers 26 weeks compared with 27 weeks last time, the sales increase does include a small volume improvement. This was in spite of the fact that confectionery sales for the whole industry have been down as a result of increased VAT.

On its manufacturing side, Maynards is mainly involved in sugar confectionery which has

suffered a worse downturn than chocolate. But the company maintained its market share, says chairman Mr Peter Salmon, with the help of improved packaging and marketing. In addition the factory modernization is nearly complete, so "the prospects for increased profits are encouraging once the demand for confectionery recovers."

Overall sales in retailing grew by 13 per cent, but higher costs and price-cutting by competitors hit margins. Expansion and modernization programmes are expected to contribute additional profits in due course. Toy retailing showed a "satisfactory" increase in sales and profits.

In the current quarter, sales are ahead of last year but they are not as buoyant as expected with industrial unrest adversely affecting retail sales. But Mr Salmon comments: "Having modernized our factories and opened two new distribution centres for our retail operations the Group is well poised to take advantage of any upturn in the retailing sector."

The interim dividend is 2.68p gross, against 2.42p last time.

Wereldhave profits rise

Wereldhave, the Dutch property group, has reported 79 profits of £124.3m (£5.5m), from £122.5m in 1978. Profits per share rose to 18.6p, against 18.0p in 1978.

The board is recommending a payment of a dividend of 6.25 (£1.42) in cash together with 3p in a tax-free scrip (scrip) issue charged to a share premium account. The 1978: £15.78 (£1.31) in cash

plus 3p per cent bonus issue.) Wereldhave will celebrate its 50th anniversary on May 30, 1980. On this occasion the board has decided upon an investigation into future developments for commercial real estate over the next 10 to 20 years. The investigation will be supported by experts from Belgium, West Germany, the United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands and the United States.

SMA expects £18m loss

SNIA Viscosa SPA of Milan d a sales rise of 6 per cent a year to 760 billion lire, but a company loss of 18 billion lire, or a loss for 1979 of about 1 billion lire (about £18m). An expected loss of this size is given rise to speculation that SNIA will devalue its capital, currently at 64.7 billion lire, but a spokesman said no decision has been taken on this.

For 1978, SNIA Viscosa reported a net loss of 79.2 billion lire, after depreciation of 25.7 billion lire and a special risk fund of 21.4 billion. The company has drawn up a financial rescue plan involving a 97 billion lire capital increase, with the support of a banking consortium and a subsequent 50 billion lire convertible bond issue.

CIC shows 39pc increase

Credit Industrielle et Commerciale (CIC), of France, a bank company of a private bank group, has posted a net profit for 1979 of Fr59.16m (about 16m) up 39.3 per cent from the Fr42.5m for the 1978 period.

The bank pointed out that a 1978 figure included a non-recurring capital gain of 15.5m.

CIC said it intends to increase

its 1979 dividend payout to Fr8.30 net per share from the Fr7.50 paid for 1978. It said that the group's results, which will not be made known until May 29, will show a growth.

CIC also said that its board had decided to double its capital to Fr452.76m through the incorporation of reserves and by doubling the nominal value of its shares to Fr100.

Guthrie Bhd up 178 pc

Guthrie Bhd's group 1979 profit, after tax and extraordinary items, rose 178.3 per cent to £5.8m (Singapore) on a year earlier. Guthrie d in 75.8 per cent owned by Guthrie Corporation of India.

The dramatic rise in after-tax profit includes a £1.6m extraordinary item, the sale of the group's 50 per cent stake in Guthrie Boatyard Shipping Agency of Singapore.

-Up plans to buy bottler

Soft drinks company 7-up of Louisville has agreed to acquire the 10-year-old, oldest, rank bottler with franchises in the Midwest and southern states. Taylor also owns IBC Root and Taylor Beverages, which packages soft drinks for

other bottlers under contracts. The companies said holders of Taylor's 225,319 common shares outstanding will be offered \$51 a share, a total of about \$11.5m. Taylor shareholders are to vote on the acquisition agreement at the annual meeting on April 15.

Forward Trust Group up 24pc

Forward Trust Group, the newly-established holding company for the Midlands Bank's finance house, yesterday announced profits for 1979 of £31.2m, a 24 per cent increase on the previous year's comparable activities.

The results represent the figures of Forward Trust, Midlands Montagu Leasing and Griffin Leasing, which between them cover instalment credit, leasing and factoring. After tax credits of £21.1m last year compared to £22.6m, the net attributable profit is up from £47.7m to £52.3m.

Mr John Harris, the group's chief executive, yesterday pointed out that a change in the basis of accounting for leasing activities had boosted 1979 profits by £5m as against £1.6m previously. The results also include 14 months of activities of Forward Trust.

Mr Harris said that the corset is beginning "to bite" and that in view of economic uncertainty it is impossible to forecast results for this year.

Int Timber sells Belize firm for £2m

J. Glickstein & Son, a subsidiary of International Timber Corporation, has sold its subsidiary, Belize Estate & Produce, operating in Belize, Central America, to Minter Naval Stores (Belize), owned by Mr W. F. Belote of Georgia, United States.

Belize Estate owns about 700,000 acres of forest land in Belize. The company produces and exports hardwood timber and acts as agent for numerous United Kingdom-based companies. The consideration for the sale is \$4.9m (£2.2m) of which \$1m has been received, with the balance payable over the next five years with interest at 8 per cent per annum. The sale is based on the balance

sheet of the company at March 31, 1979, and a further amount payable to the seller in the increase in value of the company to March 29, 1980. In the year to March 31, 1979, the turnover of the company was £2.51m and the net profit, before tax, was £330,000.

Receivers appointed at Fertleman

Mr Guy Parsons and Mr William Ratford, partners in chartered accountants Peat, Marwick, Mitchell, have been appointed Joint Receivers of B. Fertleman and Sons.

The Receivers say that they are continuing to carry on the group's furniture manufacturing business whilst they undertake an urgent review of its viability.

Britannic Assurance pays more

Britannic Assurance is lifting its total gross dividend for 1979 from 14.7p to 17p. The company made a profit on long-term business of £2.31m, against £1.81m. General branch profits were up from £3,000 to £213,000.

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Margins squeezed at Lookers

At the annual meeting of Lookers, the car distributors and engineers, shareholders

were told that in the first four months of the current year sales of new cars had fallen, but the used car market had kept up well. The chairman, Mr R. E. Tongue, reported that margins had been squeezed but the group was making profits and he forecast that shareholders would be receiving the same sort of dividend in a year's time.

Weeks Associates: RAP increases profit

Acquired by Weeks Associates last year, Rubber and Allied Products (RAP) produced pretax profits of £371,082 in the 12 months to October 31, 1979—£46,082 above the warranted profits at the time of the acquisition last May.

Weeks Associates has now paid five times this excess, completing full settlement of the purchase price of £1.73m. Weeks Associates' annual figures for the year ending January 27, 1980, will include consolidation of RAP results to that date.

RAP, which now has seven depots in major industrial centres, is a principal merchant and manufacturer of rubber and PVC hoses, mouldings and conveyor belting, protective clothing, gaskets and rubber/metal fabrication, with over 1,250 customers.

Pretax profits for RAP in 1978 were £274,770 on turnover of £2.23m.

Mr M Wernicke joins Stewart & Wight

Mr Michael Wernicke has been co-opted to the board of Stewart & Wight. Mr Wernicke has been involved in the retail trade for a number of years and it is felt that his experience will stand the company in good stead.

SKF

Financial statement

SKF Group sales amounted to 11,062 million Swedish kronor for the year ending 31 December 1979, which represents a rise of 16 per cent over the previous year's figure. Volume sales accounted for a third of the rise, while both steel and bearing sectors increased their market shares.

Group profit more than doubled to 475 million kronor before exchange differences and extraordinary items. All main product sectors contributed profits to Group income, SKF Steel pulling itself out of the red with a 100 million kronor improvement.

The year's results reflect the positive effects of ongoing rationalization, greater capacity utilization and intensified marketing. There is every reason to believe that this combination will also make it possible to achieve a significant improvement in Group income during 1980.

The Board and Managing Director propose an increased dividend from 4.50 kronor to 6.00 kronor per share.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 30 May 1980.

Mkr=million Swedish kronor		Financial year to 31 Dec 1979		Financial year to 31 Dec 1978	
		Mkr	%	Mkr	%
Group net sales		11,062	100.0	9,533	100.0
Other operating revenue		133		97	
Operating revenue		11,215		9,630	
Cost of goods sold		7,701	69.6	6,692	70.2
Selling, administrative and technical development expenses		2,173	19.7	1,949	20.4
Operating income before depreciation		1,341	12.1	989	10.4
Depreciation		465	4.2	446	4.7
Operating income after depreciation		876	7.9	543	5.7
Financial income and expenses - net		-401	3.6	-336	3.5
Income before exchange differences		475	4.3	207	2.2
Reserved for exchange losses		-15		-25	
Accounting translation differences		-137		-134	
Extraordinary income and expenses - net		-39		33	
Income before provisions and taxes		264	2.4	81	0.8
Provisions		21		169	
Taxes		-149		-141	
Minority interest		2		-8	
Net income		138	1.2	101	1.1
Capital expenditure, Mkr		407		442	
Average number of employees		53,994		54,468	
Earnings per Parent Company share, Skr		14.15		4.90	
Group sales by product sector*		Mkr	%	Mkr	%
Rolling bearings		8,200	69.2	7,240	70.7
Steel		1,840	15.5	1,470	14.4
Cutting tools		500	4.2	450	4.4
Other products		1,320	11.1	1,070	10.5
Total		11,860	100.0	10,230	100.0

*Figures include internal deliveries between product sectors.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Airfix disposes of footwear operation

By Michael Frost

Airfix Industries, which has been battling for several months to sell its loss-making Meccano factory, has agreed virtually to give away another unprofitable enterprise, Airfix Footwear.

The move is part of Airfix's strategy of disposing of businesses not regarded as part of the company's mainstream activities.

Under the terms of the agreement, Footwear, which made women's high fashion leather shoes, will be sold for a "nominal" consideration. Airfix will send the purchasers £250,000, take on all Footwear's debts not stemming from normal trading, and offer a two-year option to buy the factory.

The purchasers are a consortium, including among others Sir Aubrey Brockbank, Dr Michael Sinclair, Mr Michael Binns, and Mr Robert de Keyser. The latter is managing director of Rembrandt Design Collections, a fact which underlines Airfix's contention that one of its problems was lack of connections in the fashion business.

The company also stresses a general downturn in demand for shoes, and competition from imports. Footwear was a major supplier to Marks & Spencer, which accounted for most of output in the first years after 1971. But by last year Marks & Spencer's orders had fallen considerably.

In 1978-79 Footwear lost £205,000 on a turnover of £45,499, equivalent to about 20 per cent of group turnover. Profits in the previous year were £41,000. The original purchase price was £255,000. The company felt that the chances of Footwear being restored to profit under its management in the present circumstances were small. Airfix's profits to the end of March 1979 were £156m.

But the fate of Footwear also highlights a trend in Airfix to concentrate on the profitable toys, trains and Crayons household items which are the core of the business.

Wall Street

New York, March 12.—Stock prices rose in active early trading this morning but blue chips were weak. Advances led declines two-to-one but the Dow Jones industrial average pointed slightly lower.

Volume leader American Telephone slipped 1/4 to 47 1/4. A block of 100,000 shares traded at 47 1/4. Active Geosource eased 1/4 to 51 1/4. Rockwell International will sell its 11 per cent stake in Geosource to a secondary offering at \$52 1/4.

March 11: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 7.34 points up at 826.28.

Silver closes down
Silver futures closed down \$1.00 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Silver futures closed at \$16.75 1/2.

Gold closes up
Gold futures closed up \$1.00 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Gold futures closed at \$340.00.

Copper closes up
Copper futures closed up \$0.01 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Copper futures closed at \$1.00.

Oil closes up
Oil futures closed up \$0.01 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Oil futures closed at \$1.00.

Grain closes up
Grain futures closed up \$0.01 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Grain futures closed at \$1.00.

Commodities
Commodities futures closed up \$0.01 on a forced margin call liquidation after a sharp rise in the morning. Commodities futures closed at \$1.00.

Bank Base Rates
Bank base rates for various banks are listed, including ABN Bank, Barclays Bank, BCCI Bank, etc.

Discount market
The Bank of England bought some Treasury bills direct from the discount houses and provided MLR loans overnight to one or two houses when it again gave small-scale help in the discount market yesterday.

On the whole, it proved a pretty uneventful session. Rates opened around 16 1/2 per cent and finished within bounds of 16 to 16 1/2 per cent. In between times, they touched 16 1/2 per cent and briefly climbed 1/4 per cent to 16 3/4 per cent before firming slightly at the finish.

Working in the market's favour was the expectation of a moderate increase in excess of tax transfers and a small decrease in note circulation. But these were outweighed by the combination of bank balances a small way before target from Tuesday, small repayment of MLR loans, to the Bank, small net Treasury bill take-up, and the unwinding of a moderate purchase and resale agreement in Treasury bills and eligible bank bills.

Money Market
Money market rates for various banks are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Foreign exchange report
Sterling was able to extend Tuesday's advance and finished 3/4 of a cent higher at 2.2345, while the trade weighted index moved up 0.3 points at the final calculation of 72.5 from 72.2 at the previous close. Dealers attributed the gain to a pound mainly to technical reasons.

The dollar reflected renewed uncertainty about events in Iran and was widely lower at first, but rallied well during the latter part of the day with sentiment helped by the United States Government statement that it had plans to increase capital spending. At the close the dollar was still lower against the D-mark 1.8070 (1.8055), French franc 1.7275 (1.7250), and Swiss franc 1.4875 (1.4850).

Against the yen the dollar showed ahead at 247.325 from 246.70.

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Recent issues of various companies are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Euro-yield
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Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds
Authorized units, insurance, and offshore funds are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Bank Base Rates
Bank base rates for various banks are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Discount market
The Bank of England bought some Treasury bills direct from the discount houses and provided MLR loans overnight to one or two houses when it again gave small-scale help in the discount market yesterday.

Money Market
Money market rates for various banks are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Foreign exchange report
Sterling was able to extend Tuesday's advance and finished 3/4 of a cent higher at 2.2345, while the trade weighted index moved up 0.3 points at the final calculation of 72.5 from 72.2 at the previous close. Dealers attributed the gain to a pound mainly to technical reasons.

The dollar reflected renewed uncertainty about events in Iran and was widely lower at first, but rallied well during the latter part of the day with sentiment helped by the United States Government statement that it had plans to increase capital spending. At the close the dollar was still lower against the D-mark 1.8070 (1.8055), French franc 1.7275 (1.7250), and Swiss franc 1.4875 (1.4850).

Against the yen the dollar showed ahead at 247.325 from 246.70.

Sterling Spot and Forward
Sterling spot and forward rates for various banks are listed, including Bank of England, Bank of Scotland, etc.

Dollar Spot Rates
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EMS European Currency Rates
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-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

CJES

35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576
Telex 887374

CJES A highly responsible position requiring considerable initiative
SENIOR SECRETARY
LONDON S.W.8 £4,500-£6,500 net of tax
RECENTLY ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

Applications are invited from experienced secretaries, aged 24-45, who are used to working to exacting standards, preferably within an international or multinational environment. Working for a director, responsibilities will cover the full range of secretarial duties, including the arrangement of international conferences and minutes of meetings. The ability to contribute to the setting up of team is important. Languages will be an advantage. Initial salary negotiable, £4,500-£6,500 net of tax, plus contributory pension scheme and B.U.P.A. Applications in strict confidence under reference SS/539/TT to The Managing Director.

Campbell-Johnson Executive Secretaries Limited, 35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH
Telephone: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. Telex: 887374
Recruitment Consultants

MEDIA MANIA, £6,500

You'll be assisting the managing director of this fast growing media buying company in the West End. He is a real dynamo so you'll be very involved with him and his clients. Plenty of interesting and challenging work. You'll need fast accurate skills too. Very friendly company with a real team spirit.

SENIOR SEC/P.A. £5,000

You'll be working for the managing director of this large blue chip ad agency in the City. He is in charge of client service and new business, so you'll be very involved with presentations and entertaining. It's a very busy position which demands top skills in including audio and video. An ability to organise people and a very presentable and pleasant personality. 24+

Please telephone Linnette Boniface or Kate Lawrence on 493 6456,
71 New Bond Street, London, W.1.
ADPOWER RANDSTAD STAFF CONSULTANTS

adpower randstad

£6,500 neg.

BI-LINGUAL SECRETARY TO MD

T.I.S. Ltd., a subsidiary of a German organisation, seek for their Managing Director a secretary 25+ with German mother tongue and fluent English. High degree of literacy in both languages, good s/h - typing and first-class organising skills in office procedures, insurance, etc. essential. Some knowledge of engineering and technical terms preferred. The right candidate will have good telephone manner and be prepared to become fully involved in all aspects of this interesting work. Salary and other benefits are excellent.

Applications please with CV to:—
T.I.S. Ltd., 12/13 SUFFOLK STREET, LONDON, SW1Y 4HG.

BI-LINGUAL SHORTHAND TYPIST FRENCH/ENGLISH

LONDON, EC3 FROM £5,500

This interesting opportunity occurs with a small and friendly French bank, located in the City. Working as one of a team of three executive secretaries, you'll take English and French dictation and carry out general secretarial duties for the bank's management. You must have previous experience in banking or insurance together with good shorthand and typing speed.

In addition to the attractive negotiable salary you'll enjoy first-class company benefits.

For further information and an application form, please telephone Anne Coker, Executive Recruitment, House, 351 Oxford St., London W1R 1PA. Tel: 01-625 2665.

P.A. £5,500, NEG.

The deputy chief executive of a leading international company is in need of real help. His responsibilities often take him away from the office. So there is a genuine opportunity to be a true P.A. At this level there is no need to stress the importance of your secretarial skills and your ability to work efficiently alongside a busy man. Ring Linda Keen.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

Recruitment Consultants
01-606 1611

JUNIOR SEC. FRANKFURT

The excellent salary and perks offered by this American / International Company are just the tip of the iceberg. You'll enjoy excellent career prospects with a group of management consultants. A good knowledge of German is essential and 100/50 speeds. Tel. Susan Shepherd, Overseas Division.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

Recruitment Consultants
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

ADMINISTRATOR £5,500

An internationally famous cosmetic company, located in Mayfair, requires an Administrator to assist the General Manager with the efficient running of the office. Duties will include statistical analysis and general administrative work. Candidates should be aged 25-35, with proven organisational ability and an eye for detail. Contact 437 1150.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY

Salary £5,000 min.

Efficient and responsible Secretary/Gl Friday required to run Chambers for two Barristers in Gray's Inn area (Consultants in Middle East Law). General Administration, accurate audio (short-hand not essential). Please ring: 01-405 1745.

Ador Associates Ltd

£5,000 +

Small division of a communications company in W.1. requires a PA secretary for one of their directors dealing with the management, development and investment of property. Busy shorthand acceptable. Very varied and interesting position with good prospects.

25 New Bond Street, London W.1
01-493 6010

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

For dynamic West End computer company, willing to learn word processing. Salary £5,000 negotiable. Tel. 580 8841. Abacus Computers Ltd.

PUBLISHING

Foreign Rights Manager of busy West End Publishing Co. requires enthusiastic, young s/h Secretary. Languages an asset. Salary negotiable. Telephone 626 2472. Roberts Bailey on 01-734 9133

Knightsbridge Audio Secretary

Secretary P.A. required to work in executive search consultancy for 3 months. Ideal candidate to help run the office of growing property company. 25ish. With lots of common sense and a sense of humour. Salary £5,000 plus benefits. Telephone 626 2472. Angela Chapman Personnel 468 4468 Recruitment Consultants

TOMORROW'S WORLD £5,300

Total job involvement offered to top PA/Sec. who is researching and writing reports. Must be capable of handling administrative duties and the training of junior staff. Excellent career prospects. Please ring Ann Bask on 01-621 0566.

£5,500 + City American Bank

A young Secretary is required to assist the Managing Director in his international business. Excellent career prospects. Very attractive fringe benefits. Angela Chapman Personnel 468 4468 Recruitment Consultants

Secretariat 628 2233

EXECUTIVE PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR £6,000

High-level experience and secretarial skills will give you the touch of luxury you deserve. Beautiful fabrics from top international designers in Paris, Milan and Rome involve this PA in frequent travel, so ability to structure your own day and handle correspondence should not be a problem if you are mature, ambitious and confident.

Please telephone 628 2233.

100 NEW BOND STREET LONDON, W.1 (Recruitment Consultants)

FUND RAISING

Two officers to work under direction of Appeals Coordinator sought by Multiple Sclerosis Society to develop exciting new projects. Must be enthusiastic, organized, self-motivated, prepared to travel out of London, and to speak to schools. To start 1st May, 1980. Salary £5,000 p.a. + L.V's. Application form from The Multiple Sclerosis Society, 286 Munster Rd., London SW16 6AP. Tel. 01-81 4022

WEE DRAM AND £5,200

You will liaise with editors, media managers, writers, photographers, et al as the advertising manager of a new magazine. You'll be responsible for the advertising manager's office and public relations. Please contact Julia King.

Albarnie Appointments

Recruitment Consultants

HYDE PARK HOTEL KNIGHTSBRIDGE SHORTHAND SECRETARY

An immediate, interesting and varied position dealing with the day-to-day correspondence of both the Deputy General Manager and Front of House Manager. Good speeds and accuracy essential. 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Free lunches and attractive company benefits. To arrange an interview please call Personnel on 225 2000, Ext. 358.

LEADER STAFF AGENCY

Requires secretary (sh/ty) PA to work for Account Directors. Age 25+. Previous agency experience preferred. Salary £5,000 p.a. Phone Celia Stander on 01-437 6816.

LEGAL SECRETARIES

West End Required by Solicitors in W.1. for commercial work. Overseas offices and strong international flavour. Legal experience essential. First-class office. Salary £4,500-£5,000 acc. to age and exp. Phone 438 6271 ext. 8.

Secretary to Managing Director

If you are a mature-minded Secretary with excellent shorthand and typing skills, an academic background plus the sense of initiative and responsibility to run an office on your own, this could be an ideal appointment for you.

As the Senior Secretary at Matthew Hall Mechanical Services Ltd., you will have a broad range of administrative involvements which include working without immediate supervision during the M.D.'s absences, and enjoy a friendly and relaxed atmosphere in modern comfortable offices. There will be plenty of contact with senior management and others connected with this major contracting company, in a professional environment where your abilities and attributes will be fully appreciated.

In addition to an excellent salary, we offer a generous range of benefits, including free health cover, season ticket loans and pension and life assurance schemes. You will be based at our Dover Street, S.E.1 offices, close to Borough Tube Station. Please write to, or telephone: Maureen Graves, Matthew Hall, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT. Tel: 01-636 3678.

Matthew Hall

SECRETARY FOR FRANCE

Our clients are an International Engineering Company. They wish to appoint a Bilingual Secretary for their offices situated about 8 miles from Paris.

The terms and conditions of employment will be first class. Salary will be commensurate with the responsibilities of this important post.

The expense involved in relocation will be paid by the Company. The ideal candidate would be in her thirties, capable of all that is required in a top level job, and knowledgeable about international travel arrangements.

Please send your details to:

Chief Executive, Aline Recruitment Consultants, Albion Chambers, 1 High Street, Leighton Buzzard, Beds, LU7 7DW.

A TOP P.A./P.R. SECRETARY/PERSON FRIDAY

prepared to work long hours in luxurious Marlin environment in exchange for salary of £7,500+. We require a highly motivated, articulate and smartly dressed person with excellent telephone manner and personality. In addition the person will have shorthand typing experience and one or more European languages are desirable. If you believe that you have the above qualifications to help the overworked chairman of a group of trading companies then you will reply in writing giving a full c.v., and your reasons for being able to claim this highly sought position. Write Box 0690 F. The Times.

01-493 6010

DIRECTOR'S ASSISTANT £5,500

Lease with interesting clients: promote and sell high-tech products and services. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including typing, filing, and answering the phone. You will also be responsible for the general administration of the office. Salary £5,500 p.a. + L.V's. Application form from The Multiple Sclerosis Society, 286 Munster Rd., London SW16 6AP. Tel. 01-81 4022

Albarnie Appointments

Recruitment Consultants

SECRETARY/PA FOR WORLD WIDE CHARITY ORGANISATION £5,830 PER ANNUM

An experienced shorthand secretary P.A. with good skills is required to work for the World Wide Charity Organisation. This is a full-time position with a salary of £5,830 per annum. The ideal candidate will be a mature, confident, and efficient person with a good knowledge of shorthand and typing. Please send your details to: The Principal, CIE Consulting Engineers, 4th Floor, 54/55 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6LR.

SENIOR SECRETARY £6,000 FOR STUDENT INSTITUTE

Challenging opportunity working for the Chairman of the U.S. orientated Student Institute. A mature person with good shorthand and typing skills to take responsibility for the general administration of the office. Salary £6,000 p.a. + L.V's. Application form from The Multiple Sclerosis Society, 286 Munster Rd., London SW16 6AP. Tel. 01-81 4022

DESIGN CONSULTANCY

requires a competent PA/Secretary. Someone who is self-motivated, confident, adaptable and can drive. Salary negotiable. Contact: Sue Rhodes, 01-229 9476.

MERCHANT BANK

Young sec. 18-21 yrs. for two young, hi-flying execs. of this well known international finance house. Speeds 90/50, 9.5 p.m. Free season ticket loan, mortgage at 2 1/2% free lunches, plus £4,300. David O'Brien, 437 3821.

Leader STAFF AGENCY

Requires secretary (sh/ty) PA to work for Account Directors. Age 25+. Previous agency experience preferred. Salary £5,000 p.a. Phone Celia Stander on 01-437 6816.

AMERICAN ATTORNEY

Well spoken Secretary required for partner in American law office. Shorthand, good typing and Tel. Opportunity to learn IBM Mag Card Word Processor. Salary £5,000+. Call Nae Sagarmen 01-638 1677

STELLA FISHER BUREAU

Administrative sec., with typing and shorthand skills, to assist the Managing Director. Salary £5,000 p.a. + L.V's. 4 weeks' holidays. Stella Fisher Bureau, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT. Tel: 01-636 3678

PERSONAL SECRETARY TO THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Staines up to £6,551

North Thames Gas wish to appoint a Personal Secretary to their Deputy Chairman based at their modern Regional Headquarters in London Road, Staines.

Applicants must be able to act on their own initiative, display tact and discretion and be able to carry out their duties in a calm and confident manner. At least three years' secretarial experience at Board or Senior Executive level is required, together with organising, typing and shorthand skills commensurate with work of this seniority.

Starting salary will be based on experience and will be within the range £5,650-£6,551 including Metropolitan Weighting. Other benefits include an excellent staff restaurant and pension and sick pay schemes.

Interested applicants, male or female, should telephone Staines 61666 ext. 3297, for an application form, or write to The Senior Personnel Officer, North Thames Gas, North Thames House, London Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 4AE, quoting reference Q.1017.

NORTH THAMES GAS

Are You Capable Of Running A High Quality Secretarial Recruitment Consultancy?

Director Designate £8,000-£12,000+

Our client, a fellow subsidiary of a major consulting group, is a small but successful consultancy located in Central London and with an established clientele.

They wish to further develop, in a controlled and highly professional way, the services they offer and seek a competent and trustworthy individual capable of assuming full control.

Reporting directly to the parent company, the successful candidate will have a responsibility for all aspects of the client's current operations and their expansion programme. Candidates should have had a successful career to date in a people orientated activity, the ability to implement development plans, and to train and motivate in-house personnel to a high level of performance.

In the first instance please submit your C.V. to R. Cohen, John Bucknall Associates Ltd., 410 Strand, London WC2R 0NS.

01-493 6010

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/P.A.

£6,000-£7,000

For Consulting Engineering firm in Central London. To work closely with Principal and General Manager. Duties include managing secretarial staff, general secretarial and administration duties. High educational background and relevant experience essential. Languages, especially Arabic will be an advantage.

Please write to: The Principal, CIE Consulting Engineers, 4th Floor, 54/55 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6LR.

PRESS OFFICE ASSISTANT c £5,000

Not so much a Secretary, more a liaison officer between a major industrial company and the press and media. This is a challenging opportunity for a Secretary with a background in an advertising or PR background to move into a junior Executive role with only a minimum secretarial function. Creativity, discretion, a creative mind and the ability to communicate at all levels a must. Phone Sue Duff at Staff Introductions, 486 6951.

SHORTHAND SECRETARY WITH AUDIO SKILLS £5,000 PLUS FOR RENOWNED ART DEALERS

Internationally recognised Art Dealer requires a mature Secretary with first-class shorthand and typing skills. The ideal candidate will be a mature, confident, and efficient person with a good knowledge of shorthand and typing. Please send your details to: The Principal, CIE Consulting Engineers, 4th Floor, 54/55 Jersey Street, London SW1Y 6LR.

CHelsea TRADING

£6,250 p.a. + SECRETARY/PA min. speed 100/50 (under 55) for interview, it is not impossible. boss. Must possess electric personality, dynamic ability, initiative, and a sense of humour. Some work in medium sized friendly firm. We will train you to use our word processor. Competitive salary and usual benefits. CALL MARTIN CHAPPEL OF PENCIL ON 01-225 4300

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY BELGRAVIA

Dynamic Director of International Consultancy requires capable Secretary with good shorthand and audio skills to assist him and his colleagues. Varied and interesting work in medium sized friendly firm. We will train you to use our word processor. Competitive salary and usual benefits. CALL MARTIN CHAPPEL OF PENCIL ON 01-225 4300

CAMBRIDGE £5,000 SENIOR SECRETARY

Join an international concern where the way people think is of vital importance! Use your initiative and drive to work with the Director! Excellent career prospects. Competitive salary and usual benefits. CALL MARTIN CHAPPEL OF PENCIL ON 01-225 4300

AMERICAN COLLEGE

In the Kensington area requires a Senior Secretary with good speeds to work with the Chairman, Port of London Authority. Involvement, varied responsibilities. Salary £6,000. Contact Carol Martin 27 1202

ALFRED MARKS STAFF BUREAU

70 Kensington High St., W.8.

LATIN AMERICA

Regional Director of a major international company with responsibility for Latin America seeks Sec. (P.A.) willing to travel with his travel arrangements, visitors from abroad and able to run office during his frequent trips overseas. Shorthand + audio + voice. Spanish an advantage. Salary negotiable + benefits. Telephone 387 9393 ext. 14.

SECRETARY ESTATE AGENTS

I have been secretary to two partners of this active, young Mayfair Estate Agents for 41 years. As a result of my recent marriage, the position is falling vacant. Hard work, intelligence and a sense of humour are essential. £5,000 per annum + L.V's. 4 weeks' holidays. Phone Irene on 498 8163

£5,500 p.a. for Shorthand Secretary

£5,500 p.a. to work for local executive in friendly, informal Mayfair office. Legal exp. not essential, more important common sense. Excellent shorthand ability and sense of humour. Ring: Bramble 01-629 1208

If you're as choosy as we are...

MARKETING £6,500

Marketing, Advertising, Information and Public Relations are the main areas of your responsibility in the West End Company. Excellent skills and P.A. experience essential. Age 30+

HIGH FINANCE

to £6,000 + 20% bonus

Magnificent opportunity to join a top American bank. Built as a young, energetic P.A./Sec. Secretary, but always fun!

P.R. to £5,500

As P.A./Sec. to a harassed P.R. man, you'll have many aspects of press and client liaison.

PERSONNEL to £5,500

As well as being Secretary to a senior executive, you'll be a Personnel Training Officer with wide-ranging responsibilities in the fields of recruiting, interviewing, salary reviews, courses and highly confidential correspondence. You'll need good shorthand and typing.

SENIOR SECRETARIES

Recruitment Consultants

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Comparing cultures, 7.05 Neo-Platonism in art, 7.30 Guinness. Closedown at 7.55.

9.00 For Schools, Colleges: Japan; 9.25 Physical Science (waves); 9.47 Science (wind); 10.10 Merry-go-round; 10.30 scene: The Fun Phenomenon; 11.05 Near and Far; 11.55 On the Rocks. Closedown at 12.20.

12.45 News and weather.

1.00 Pubic Mill at One: Studio interviews with Canadian film director Norman Jewison (Fiddler on the Roof, Thomas Crown Affair) and with ex-war artist Terence Cuneo, who has also painted royalty.

2.00 You and Me: Our Doctor (r); 2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time (Lieutenant Kije); 2.40 Television Club. Closedown at 3.00.

3.55 Play School: Michael J. Wyatt's story Mr Duff, the Door-man; 4.20 Bojars: Cartoons called Bees; 4.25 Jackanory: Jenny Agut-

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Maths (orthogonal bases); 7.05 Changing the record; 7.30 Flight flights, close down at 7.55.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.

2.00 pm Racing from Cheltenham: Final day of the National Hunt Festival. Includes the York Cheil-naham Gold Cup, a 12.50 highlight of the day's racing at 6.45 tonight. Closedown at 4.20.

4.50 Open University: Marching Trapped in the Turret. Episode 12.

6.00 Bolshoi Puppets: The Fairy Story of Emilio. Recorded at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, during the Leodragard company's visit to London recently. William Ruston narrates.

6.45 News. Highlights from today's Cheltenham Festival.

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THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Making a Living (Japanese economy); 10.52 Beliefs in the North (violence); 10.55 Good Health; 10.55 French (hobbies and pets); 10.46 Bertrand Russell (views on Britain); 11.05 Music Round (records); 11.30 News and doing (2005); 11.44 Picture Box (ancient Rome).

12.00 Topper's Tales: Julian Orchard reads the story of Peter's Trap. With Peter Parr's drawings; 12.10 Stepping Stones: the theme is markets; 12.30 The Swans: stories of an Australian family in the last war.

1.00 pm News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 Together: Rumours about the relationship with Peter.

2.00 After Noon Film: Film about a dyslexia sufferer—a very bright youth—about to take his O-level exams. Also, the Post-Impressionist exhibition at the Royal Academy.

2.45 Spoils of War: Repeat of the final episode of this Last District family serial.

3.45 How's Your Father?: Harry Worth comedy series. Today: a new holiday (r).

4.15 Spideymania: Cartoon.

4.45 International Gymnastics: Highlights from the Gold Top Gymnastics from Wembley. British men against the Americans, British women against the Hungarians.

5.15 White Light: For older teenagers. What do they think about politics. They face two MPs

THAMES

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.20 Help! Advice for those suffering

from the skin condition called Psoriasis.

6.30 Crossroads: Marian Owen makes a vital decision.

6.55 Looks Familiar: Show business quiz, with David Hordley as quiz master. His guests are Dickie Henderson, Liz Fraser and Brian Johnson.

7.20 The Jim Davidson Show: Comedy sketches on the theme of travel and holidays.

7.50 Armchair Thriller: Episode 2 of High Tide. Ian McShane is the man who, having served a sentence for manslaughter, becomes involved in a new drama.

8.20 The 1980 World Ice Skating Championship: Can Robin Cousins do what John Curry did four years ago?

9.30 T. V. Eye: A new controversy over the Cambodian orphans in Thai refugee camps. Should they stay there? Yes, says the Thai government and the UN. No, say adoption agencies who want them adopted by Western families.

10.00 News.

10.30 Thames Report: Chemicals—Trent Valley. The threat to the community that lie behind factory walls in the London area.

11.00 Lou Grant: Bomb. Newspaper drama.

12.00 What the Papers say. Presented by Peter Patterson.

12.15 am News. Anna Ford reads Edward Thomas's poem Lights Out.

12.30 am News and weather in French.

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Regions

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